

The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and, by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos.*

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Review of the Week.

WE have until the 19th of this month to ruminate the great DERBY-DISRAELI-ELLENBOROUGH measure for the transfer of the government of India to the Crown; but, in so limited a time, will it be any marvel if we fail to discover even one tithe of the merits claimed for it by our imaginative CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER? The scheme is so large, the organization so novel and unexpected. Bottom takes the place of top, and middle is not perfectly assured as to position. Powers are given far beyond those warranted by the terms of the British Constitution; and ten-pound householders are apparently made supreme arbiters of the fate of millions of men, to say nothing of money. Even Mr. DISRAELI evinced signs of doubt whether he was making the superlative advantages of his scheme of Indian Government sufficiently clear to the perceptions of members on Friday night; these signs, be it remarked, were most manifest when, growing gravest under the sense of the solemn interest involved in the carrying out of the project, gentlemen on the opposite side of the House grew merry—so merry that, after a while, they began to laugh, and continued to do so until Mr. DISRAELI left off speaking; which he did much sooner, it is believed, than he would have done but for the levity of mind exhibited by those gentlemen on the wrong side. What could they have found to laugh at in a bill for the transfer of the government of India to the British Crown—a bill which proposes to substitute for the present notoriously inefficient system of government, a system of the organization of which the following is a very brief outline?

Supposing that the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER were to succeed in carrying this great measure through the House of Commons, and that Lord ELLENBOROUGH and Lord DERBY were equally successful with it in the House of Lords, this is how the Government of India would be administered:—There would be a 'Secretary of State for India,' assisted by a council of eighteen members, who would exert a moral control over him, against which the right would be secured to him of appointing a Vice-President of the Council. The constitution of this council is peculiar, and may possibly have had a moving effect upon the risible faculty of the 'gentlemen opposite.' Of its eighteen members, nine would be nominated by the Crown, and nine would be elected—to the glory of the ten-pound householder and unbounded admiration of every

other class of electors and non-electors, no doubt. Four of the members nominated by the Crown would be supposed to represent the four principal divisions of British India, and a fifth member the diplomatic service; the remaining four would represent the armies of the Queen, of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay. Of the nine elected members, four would be elected by persons interested in India, residents, holders of 1000*l.* worth of India Stock, or 2000*l.* of stock in railways or public works; the other five would be elected by the constituencies of London, Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, and Belfast. Perhaps it was that Mr. DISRAELI was hopeless of being able to get the other side of the House into a proper state of gravity for the consideration of so elaborate a work of art as this bill; but it is certain that he made no serious attempt to do it. Having, with very unusual gravity, explained the complex mechanism of his new machine, and drawn attention to its manifold beauties of detail, he asked for leave to bring in his bill, which leave was accorded to him—quite seriously. Indeed, by the time Mr. DISRAELI had come to the end of his speech, members were very much sobered down, and some of them in an objecting state of mind, particularly Mr. BRIGHT, who went so far as to say that he thought the elective part of the bill 'clap-trap,' and Mr. ROEBUCK, who, going beyond him, called the whole Council a 'sham.'

From the spirit of these remarks, we may form a fair guess at the spirit of the remarks which the same gentlemen and those who side with them will be prepared to make some time after the coming 12th of April. That the bill in its present state has the least chance of weathering the Parliamentary storm which certainly awaits it, not half a dozen persons even of those in 'office' can believe. If Lord PALMERSTON's measure, with its Council of eight, met objection, on account of the virtual irresponsibility of the proposed head of the Government, the Council at least had real powers, for four of its number could put a veto upon the financial proceedings of their President. Is Mr. DISRAELI's council of eighteen, with its function of 'moral' influence, likely to give assurance of greater responsibility? To whom are the eighteen responsible? In fact, they are responsible to nobody, and their office is little more than what Mr. ROEBUCK described it as being, 'a sham;' for they have no power, can do nothing without the written sanction of the Secretary of State, who, by the aid of his 'secret' council of two—whose counsel, how-

ever, he is in no way bound to accept—can negative the whole of their proceedings,—if, under such circumstances they should trouble themselves and him by proceeding at all. But, looking no deeper into the scheme, is it anything more than a bigish bid for the votes and interest of the five chosen cities, thrown out with reference to the possibilities of a not undistant general election?

In the House of Lords, on the last night of the sitting before the Easter holidays, Lord PANMURE and the Duke of CAMBRIDGE made each long statements on the subject of the condition of the Army, the moral of each speech being that the public has totally misunderstood the report of the Sanitary Commissioners, about which it has lately been busy-ing itself—somewhat impertinently, according to Lord CARDIGAN—and the discussion has continued this week. It is curious to observe with what pertinacity military 'authorities' endeavour to talk down unprofessional—or rather 'civilian'—criticism. The knowledge and experience which will apply in every other way, are useless with regard to military affairs: a military kitchen, a military hospital, a military lodging, one and all, are beyond the comprehension of the civilian mind—if we take the opinion of military authorities as conclusive. In spite, then, of the reports of Commissioners, and of the more satisfying evidence of personal knowledge, we are called upon to take Lord PANMURE's word for it that, during the last five-and-twenty years, there has not been the least ground for the popular belief that the British soldier has been in any respect neglected. It is only another instance of public ingratitude to men who, for patriotism alone, are content to 'eat their hearts' in its service. "It is because all has been done unostentatiously the public have taken no notice of it, and are quite in ignorance of the vast improvements which have taken place in the condition of the soldier." It will instantly occur to the civilian mind that this argument goes to prove rather the bad condition of the soldier in past times than his good condition in the present; though to venture to suggest such an objection would be to ensure instant conviction by martial law as a cap-tious impertinent. But there is one ground upon which we may at least stand face to face with military authority, without too much dread of consequences, for we have an undisputed equal right to stand upon it: it is that of the 'military estimates. You bully us about not taking more care of the Army—"matters you know nothing about," say the Commander-in-Chief and Lord PANMURE;

"but how are we to do more than we do, when you are so niggardly with your money?" Now, we say we are not niggardly; that we give more money for the support of our Army than any other people under the sun; that we are ready to give even more, if it can be shown that more is needed for its proper maintenance; but, on the other hand, we say that 11,500,000*l.* a year is a very large sum, and ought to go a good way towards the objects for which it is voted—with no niggardly feeling. And—since we are on neutral ground—we say further that our doubts as to the condition of our brave soldiers have no reference to the insufficiency of the provision made for them, but only to the competency of the "authorities" through whose hands our money passes.

Perhaps at this moment, when we have a great deal of work on hand, and our attention is led away from close considerations of details, we shall not do much to remove our doubts as to the economy of the Army or of the State. But a time must be found before long for looking right to the bottom of the question of our national expenditure. The letter of JOHN BRIGHT to the representative of the unemployed operatives of Birmingham sounds a note of alarm, the echoes of which will not quickly die away. Here are thousands of the skilled labourers of one of the first manufacturing cities of the world memorializing their sovereign to furnish them with means to quit the land of their birth, where their toil can no longer ensure them the means of subsistence. What is the reason of this? Mr. BRIGHT points to it: it is the overwhelming taxation of the country. What is to stand against this tremendous conclusion? "This year," says Mr. BRIGHT, "I suppose we shall raise in taxes at least 50,000,000*l.* sterling more than will require to be raised by an equal population, living, not in England, but in the United States of America." To watch the time, to seize the right moment for opening up this momentous question, we take to be the mission of JOHN BRIGHT; there is not another man before the country so capable as he for the performance of the task.

Nor shall we want for monitions to watchfulness. The returns of revenue will come with inevitable precision to wake us up if we are sleeping. The present year's returns show a net decrease of 4,452,550*l.*, on the quarter of 2,500,000*l.*, while, on the other hand, there has been a considerable increase of expenditure. The direct cause of the deficiency has been the reduction of the income-tax, so pertinaciously enforced by Mr. DISRAELI and by Mr. GLADSTONE. To Mr. GLADSTONE the consequences will give little distress, but to the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER what torment! If he had not torn from the hands of the late CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER the 4,503,819*l.* now to be found, how comparatively pleasant would have been the preparation of the coming budget! It will not be difficult to raise the money,—but the ordeal of asking for it! Money is indeed plentiful, as we see by the alacrity with which the greater part of the Indian loan has been tendered for at an average of ninety-eight, the *minimum* price fixed by the Company being ninety-seven. This readiness to advance large sums of money on such terms indicates in a marked manner the stability of our public credit, and particularly the confidence with which the maintenance of the Indian credit is anticipated, whatever the form of government.

We are carried by the telegraphic news from India many steps nearer to the centre upon which anxious attention will for some time be fixed. At the latest date to which we have intelligence, namely the 6th of March, the bombardment of rebel Lucknow was only four days distant. By many roads, between the 21st of February and the date named above, vast trains of artillery and stores had found their way, in spite of every impediment that the enemy could devise, to the hand

of the Commander-in-Chief. Large bodies of men, too, fighting their way onwards to the given spot, had joined their famous leader—OUTRAM and FRANKS, with JUNG BAHADOOR, pressing forward. Throughout Central India, all was activity under Sir HUGH ROSE and General WHITLOCKE. Everywhere overthrow and disaster were overtaking the wavering and dispirited rebels. Only the great act of the campaign remained to be achieved, and for news of that we shall, in all probability, not have long to wait. What the result will have been, who doubts?

From China we have letters of strange interest. Masters of the City of Canton, it is only by snail-pace that we make progress with its people, and even more slowly with the authorities. We cannot make ourselves understood; shall we ever succeed in doing so? At any rate, it would seem that we have really some reason to pursue the attempt. One incident of our experience goes far to settle the question of our right to meddle with the Chinese in opposition to their expressed wishes. This incident is described in the letter of the *Times* special correspondent. Circumstances in themselves illustrative of some strange Chinese characteristics, led Mr. PARKES, the British Consul, with a party of officers, to visit certain of the city prisons, and there were made such discoveries as confirmed the most tremendous stories of Chinese cruelty that have been related any time during our dealings with this astonishing people. The scene described by the *Times* correspondent is too horrible to relate: men cooped in dens like those of wild-beasts, and left to starve to death in company with the putrid and rat-eaten bodies of their more fortunate companions. And children were among the men! Surely the world, including the peace-at-any-price party, will agree with Lord ELGIN that, "where a Christian Power has means to stop these things they cannot be permitted." PEH-KWEI, the Lieutenant-Governor of the city, had asked, "What was it to us how he dealt with his own people?"

Forewarned, and in the hope of reforming himself, the Emperor NAPOLEON has been taking counsel of the great money-dealers of France and elsewhere as to what he is to do to mitigate the evils of the present stagnant condition of trade and commerce in France. His counsellors at once suggested the Bourse as the medium through which his Majesty's beneficent desires could be best realized. Speculation having brought about the present very undesirable state of public credit, speculation is the antidote prescribed by these adepts, among whom was M. JULES MIRÈS, a great authority. One step by which, with their advice, public credit is to be revived, is, that instead of one settlement per month for dealings in national funds, and two for all those in all classes of shares, there should be only one settling-day for the latter kind of transactions as well as the former; the effect of which would be to give speculators 'for the rise' an extra chance, and a strong inducement to avail themselves of it. What permanent good these thoroughly French remedies can be expected to produce, it is not easy to see—outside the Bourse.

In other respects, NAPOLEON is just now willing to take counsel, and has sent General ESPINASSE on a tour of inspection through the country. Before the general's departure, he was made the medium of an act of Imperial generosity which will find many admirers—and awaken many other feelings and recollections besides. A deputation having waited upon him to solicit permission to open a subscription in France for the purpose of relieving M. DE LAMARTINE of the pecuniary difficulties under which he has so long been labouring, General ESPINASSE answered in writing that he was authorized by the Emperor to give the permission asked, and further, to place his Majesty's name at the head of the list, in remembrance of the services rendered by M. DE LAMARTINE in the cause of order

in 1848, and in recognition of "all the misery and disgrace France was spared by his generous energy."

From Naples we have the intelligence that the King is taking the same course with regard to our countryman PARK which he took with reference to WATT; that is, he has permitted PARK to be removed to an English hospital, the first step before giving him permission to return to his own country. Is all this done with a view to mitigation of damages? If the judgment of the country is permitted to have any weight with the diplomatists in whose hands the vindication of the national honour will be left, this after-thought of the Neapolitan tyrant will avail him nothing. The question of the illegality of the seizure of the Cagliari has been sifted by another great English authority, Dr. TRAVERS TWISS. His opinion entirely confirms that given lately by Dr. PHILLIMORE; it leaves not the shadow of a doubt that the vessel was seized upon the high seas in contempt of international laws; and establishes clearly the fact that all the after proceedings have been in violation of justice. Will Sardinia be left single-handed in forcing the King of NAPLES to make amends for the foul wrong in which he has persisted?

It would appear that we must go northward for any relaxation of autocratic will. In Russia we have the agreeable spectacle of the Emperor ALEXANDER II. following out the scheme of his father for the emancipation of the serf. The work is being set about in vigorous earnest, and the speech of General MOURAVIEFF to the committee charged to investigate and prepare plans for carrying out the objects in view, gives hope that, great as the difficulties are, they will be surmounted. A ukase has lately been signed precluding landed proprietors from converting peasants into domestic serfs, but leaving the proprietors still free to convert their domestic serfs into peasants. A correspondent of *Le Nord* says:—"The Government will thus follow up its idea of transforming the peasant serfs into peasant proprietors, which is the most natural and the most rational solution of the question of serfdom."

It is only by degrees that the principles enunciated nearly two thousand years ago are applied by our slow rulers all the world over. It is to be hoped that the faith in which the Prince has been formally 'confirmed' this week will be yet more largely enforced during his reign; for, studied in the spirit of their Author's own words, what are the principles of Christianity but those of good government?

WAGES OF DOCKYARD LABOURERS.—A deputation from Greenwich and Woolwich had an interview on Monday with Sir John Pakington, First Lord of the Admiralty, at Whitehall, for the purpose of requesting the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to raise the wages of Government dockyard labourers from the present insufficient scale of thirteen shillings per week. Mr. Townsend, M.P., introduced the subject. In answer to a question, Sir John Pakington was informed that, some years since, when the price of corn was high, the wages paid to the men were fourteen shillings a week. "Then," said Sir John, "I should think, considering the reduction in the price of provisions, that the men are better off at present." He added that he was not at present in a position to promise an increase of wages, but he intended to visit these dockyards, and personally investigate the condition of the labourers, whom he would gladly benefit if it could be done consistently with justice and a due regard to economy in the expenditure of the public funds.

THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE EIGHT-OARED BOAT RACE took place last Saturday morning. The course was from Putney-bridge to Mortlake; and the result was that the Cantabs beat the Oxonians. The former passed the flag-boat near Mortlake in twenty-one minutes twenty-three seconds from the time of starting, while their opponents reached the same point twenty-two seconds later—that is to say, about three lengths behind. The Oxford men are reported as being apparently out of training, and, although they pulled with great spirit, they exhibited some degree of nervous hurry. The builders of the Oxford boat, however, have written to the *Times* to say that the defeat of the Oxonians may be attributable to the fact of an accident having happened to the 'stroke oar,' which seriously affected the speed of the boat.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

The intelligence from the insurgent districts again assumes somewhat of its former character, and excites a degree of interest which the telegrams imperfectly satisfy. A new chapter of the insurrection is by this time opened; for, according to the last accounts, Sir Colin Campbell was before Lucknow, and we may therefore expect to hear by the next advices that an important blow has been struck against the stronghold of the Oudean rebels. The Commander-in-Chief reached the Alumbagh on the 1st or 2nd of March, and pushed on a strong force to the garden of the Dilkhoosha, which is only a mile from the city. On the 5th, he was at Beedecoll. He had received his siege trains from Agra on the 23rd of February, and had subsequently learnt that Stewart's, Orr's, and Whitelocke's columns were on the road towards Jhansi. This induced Sir Colin to make the advance on Lucknow; and, at about the same time, General Franks, with a column of about four thousand men, joined the main force from Oodabadi. Previously to the arrival of the Commander-in-Chief at the Alumbagh—viz., on the 21st and 25th of February—Sir James Outram was attacked by a large force of the enemy. The first of these assaults appears to have been made with desperate vigour. Two sides of Sir James's position were flanked, and a heavy column came down in front. The English General, however, had received intelligence of the attack from spies, and took the best precautions against it. "He moved out on the approach of the enemy," says the Foreign-office telegram; "cut off both their flanks; took two guns, and forced them to retreat. His loss altogether was trifling—viz., twenty-one wounded." It would appear that not one of our men was killed. The attack on the 25th of February was repulsed with the loss to the enemy of three guns. On both occasions, the insurgents lost a great many men.

The Goomtee was crossed by Sir James Outram on the 6th of March. The General then took up a position within range on the eastern side of Lucknow, nearly opposite to that of Sir Colin Campbell. He was immediately attacked, but the enemy were defeated by Sir Colin, who marched upon them from Chanda, finding, apparently, that his subordinate was in some danger. Outram's force is set down at six thousand men and thirty guns. With respect to the general amount of our force before Lucknow, various accounts are put forth. In one of the telegrams it is stated at 30,000 "men" (ay. infantry?), with 10,000 cavalry and 120 guns. The *Calcutta correspondent of the Times*, however, gives a different account. He states (writing on the 22nd of February, previous to Sir Colin Campbell's advance):—

"After leaving a garrison at Futtchghur, and strong parties to watch different points of the river, Sir Colin may still have with him sixteen regiments of European infantry, three regiments of European cavalry, 3000 Sikh horse, eighty siege guns, eighty first-class field pieces, and perhaps fifty guns of smaller calibre. His supplies of ammunition are on the Sebastopol scale, and regularly increased from the depôts at Agra, Allahabad, and Calcutta. Unfortunately, the sixteen regiments cannot be estimated at more than 8000 men, reducing the whole European force to less than 10,000." [This account, the writer afterwards states, is exclusive of the forces under Colonel Franks, Sir James Outram, and Jung Bahadur.] "It was expected in camp that all would be across, carts and men, by the 18th inst. They have a march of forty-eight miles to reach Lucknow, which will occupy the ammunition carts, the slowest portion of the cavalcade, two days at least. Two days more must be spent in raising the batteries and in general preparations for the assault. The chief is cautious almost to tardiness, and I shall be surprised if fire opens much before to-morrow, the 23rd (of February). I give you a calculation current in Cawnpore; but I am bound to tell you the officials here expect the cannonade to begin on the 20th inst."

A telegram from Malta, published in the *Times*, says that the general attack was expected to begin about the 10th of March. The opposing force has been calculated at 200,000 men; but this may be an exaggeration. The enemy continued, at the last dates, within the city. The welcome announcement is made that the English ladies, who had been imprisoned with the Queen, are alive and have been well treated. From various other telegrams we derive the following additional facts:—

"Brigadier Campbell has placed a strong brigade and patrols as far as the old road from Cawnpore. In the attack on Dilkhoosha, Colonel Little was wounded; and, in an engagement which General Franks had with the enemy just before he effected a junction with the Commander-in-Chief's force, Major Percy Keith, of the 2nd Dragoons, was killed, and Lieutenant Innes, of the Engineers, wounded.

"The enemy [at Lucknow] has erected a strong line of defence along the canal, which will require siege artillery. The casualties from the 3rd to the 6th of March inclusive were two officers and nine men killed,

and 323 men wounded. The enemy is alarmed, but likely to fight. One party is anxious to treat. The green flag has been hoisted by a fanatic, who preclaims a religious war. The rebels have attacked the friendly Rajah of Chedare, whose troops mutinied. They captured his guns, and retired to Calpee on the 21st of February.

"Franks's column has had a decisive action. It marched on the 29th of February, in advance of Budlapore, and encountered the enemy near Shandina. Brigadier Franks prevented a junction between the two insurgent corps—the first under Mahomet Dussain, and the second under a disaffected Chukladara; the former had 21,000 men and 21 guns; the latter 8000 men and 6 guns. He out-manœuvred them, and beat them separately, killing and wounding 2800, and taking all their guns.

"The rebel corps of Mahomet Dussain had taken up a strongly entrenched position on the north of Kadshagunge, eight miles from Shanda. Brigadier Franks outflanked them and forced them to retire, with a loss of eight guns. Three miles further he halted, when the second corps of rebels attacked him; he was again victorious, and all obstacles on his march to Lucknow were removed. At the same time, Brigadier Hope Grant marched from Oonas to Futtchpore Chowrassie, the old haunt of Nana Sahib, blew it up, took four guns, and killed 1600 men, with casualties amounting to seventeen or eighteen. On February 23rd, he attacked Meangunge, a fortified town in Oude. After a breach had been effected, the place was stormed by her Majesty's 53rd Regiment. The rebels lost 500 killed, and four guns. Our casualties were eighteen, two officers not named being among the wounded.

"Jung Bahadur crossed the Goomtee at Sultanpore on the 3rd of March; small-pox had broken out in the Ghorka camp.

"A large force of rebels crossed in Ghoraekpore on February 6th. They were attacked by Colonel Rowcroft, and pursued for seven miles. The enemy's loss was great, and eight guns were taken. Orr's column has advanced past Bentka, twenty miles north-east of Saugor, on the road from Shaghur to Pectoria, having had some skirmishes with rebels. Brigadier Stewart was at Bhauri, near Goona. The fort of Bhotas had been taken and occupied. The force under Sir Hugh Rose occupied the Fort of Barodia on March 1, and repulsed an attempt made by the enemy on the fort during the night of the 3rd of March. Sir Hugh Rose forced the passage of Mudipore en route to Jhansi.

"The report that the ex-King of Delhi had been convicted and sentenced to transportation for life was erroneous. His trial is not yet completed. General Roberts's force is at Nusseerabad, on its way to Kotah. Some disturbances are reported in the southern Mahratta country, in Sawant Waree, and Malabar. The Punjab is perfectly quiet, and sending assistance where wanted. The insurgent Bessayeas have taken refuge in the Canara districts of the Madras Presidency. A movement was made against them by a force under Colonel M'Clean on the 3rd of March; but they evacuated a strong position which they had chosen, and are now with their followers dispersed through the Canara jungles. Operations against the Bheels are in progress. Nana Sahib was still in Oude at the last dates.

"Chamberlain's force under Brigadier Penny crossed the Ganges to Rohileund on the 17th, and encountered the rebels on the 24th of February. Major Coke goes with a force of Panjab regiments to watch the upper part of the Doab. Sir John Lawrence and General Van Cortlandt reached Delhi on the 24th. From Rajpootana we have cheering news. The dates from Nusseerabad are to the 27th of February. General Roberts's brigade was ready to march with a strong body of infantry, the 8th Hussars, 200 Scinde horse, 800 regular cavalry, two troops of Horse Artillery field batteries, besides eighteen siege guns, the General only waiting the arrival of the 72nd Highlanders, due at Nusseerabad on the 8th of March, to start for Kotah, where the enemy muster 8000 men, with 100 guns. Probably only twenty are of use in the field.

"The Mokdurad Pass, in the hands of the rebels, may have to be forced. In Kandeish there is nothing new. In the South Mahratta country, the old rebellion of the Nawut Narie Chief has been renewed, and an attempt to pursue the main body from Belgaum was defeated by the thickness of the jungles in which the enemy had taken refuge.

"The 92nd Highlanders have arrived at Bombay."

RUMOURS AND FACTS.

In the latest letter of the *Times* Calcutta correspondent we read:—

"It is the universal opinion of the officials that the garrison [of Lucknow] will not fight; that they are in despair, quarrelling among themselves, anxious to accept any terms, and ready to sink away to hide in their own homes. Such is the view expressed also by Sir James Outram, whose position at the Alumbagh gives him the means of knowing the truth as far as it can be known to any European, and such seems to be the secret belief even of the chief. Colonel Franks and Jung Bahadur are both advancing at a foot's pace, evidently under orders to cut off escaping mutineers, rather than instantly reinforce the chief. Jung Bahadur, with 9000 men, has only just crossed the Gogra, and complains that Government vacillates between fighting and treating. Colonel Franks, with her Ma-

jesty's 10th, 20th, and 97th, and six Ghorka regiments, or 5500 men in all, 2500 of whom are Europeans, has only advanced to Sultanpore, and waits apparently for final orders. Meanwhile, some project to detach the landowners from the mutineers is discussed at Allahabad. I am assured that a proclamation will be speedily issued, promising life, perhaps estates, to all who lay down their arms before a certain day. Some great exceptions will be made, among whom, I believe, is Mumm Singh. The blood of Neill, which rests on his head, weighs him down in the scale. I fear I shall have caused much premature delight to individuals by my statement of last mail, but the error was not mine. Mr. Osborne, opium agent at Bastee, Goruckpore, reported the safety of the families named, saying Mrs. Dahm and her children had arrived in safety at his house, and the remainder were on the road. They were not, and by last accounts are still in Lucknow alive, but closely imprisoned. Messages have been received from Mrs. Orr, saying she hoped to get out, but the difficulty was to save her and her child together.

"There are still very large bodies of insurgents in different places. Even in Behar, it was not till the 19th of February that Colonel Mitchell seized Rhothagur, driving out Umar Singh, with the remnant of Koor Singh's old force. These men have been marauding now for six months unmolested, until, emboldened by impunity, they approached the Grand Trunk Road, cut the telegraph, became inconvenient, and were smashed. The Gwalior mutineers were till the 4th inst. still at Calpee with the remnant of the Dinapore men. They had lost their guns and most of their men, but were still 4000 resolute men. They were watched by Captain Thomson and some Sikh Sowars, but on the 3rd of February a wing of the 88th arrived to his support. The mutineers advanced to attack, and were met by General Inglis with his 68th. They were driven back, but retired fighting step by step for four hours, and their skirmishers succeeded in covering their retreat across the river. Some eighty were found dead, while General Inglis had only three men wounded, and Captain Thomson shot through the thigh,—a small loss, considering that the enemy stood.

"Sir Robert Hamilton is quieting the Sangor territory fast. Like Sir John Lawrence, Montgomery, Edwards, Nicholson, and, in fact, all the successful men of the mutiny, he has little reverence for the lives of mutineers. He hung two hundred men active in the murder of the Burtons over the gate of Raighur as a warning of the sanctity of European life.

"The trial of the King of Delhi certainly proves three things:—First. The revolt was instigated by the Shah of Persia, who promised money and troops. His proclamation to that effect was posted over the Mosque gate, and was taken down by order of Sir Theophilus Metcalfe, who moreover was warned by John Everett, a Christian Baisildar, very popular with the natives, that he had been warned to fly, as the Persians were coming, and that the Mussulmans were exceedingly excited. Sir Theophilus thought the matter one of no importance.—Second. A paper was produced addressed to Mr. Colvin by Mahomed Dervish, revealing the whole plot six weeks before it broke out. Mr. Colvin treated the warning as unimportant, and never even reported it to Government.—Third. The murders of the Europeans in Delhi were committed by order of the King, in the presence of the royal family, and by means of the Khambardars, his special personal guard."

The same writer speaks of having seen a letter from Sir John Lawrence, in which he says that the danger in the Punjab is passing, but that even now there are only 64,000 Europeans in that locality. The sons of Dost Mahomed are said to have tried to induce their father to make a descent on Peshawur, for the sake of regaining their ancient province; but the Ameer discountenanced the enterprise, and took measures to prevent it. An act of great audacity has been committed within the very hearing of the Governor-General. One day, a salute of cannon was heard at Lord Canning's tent near Allahabad, and information was soon brought that a neighbouring chief had proclaimed his independence, and had fired a salute in his own honour. The Governor-General, it is stated, has not a man to spare for the chastisement of this insolence.

In the early days of the rebellion, the old landholders succeeded in wresting their former estates from the bankers who had purchased them; but a measure has just passed, restoring them to the latter possessors.

THE WRITING ON THE WALL.

The first of Mr. Russell's special letters from India to the *Times* was lost in the *Ava*; but the second makes its appearance in Monday's paper. It is marked with all the old Crimean 'dash' and vivid power, and contains, moreover, some facts of interest. Thus Mr. Russell describes the scene of the massacre at Cawnpore, letting in, at the same time, a rather startling light on the celebrated writing on the wall appealing to the soldiers for vengeance:—

"We walked over to inspect the site of the horrid butchery which has rendered the Sepoy mutiny infamous for ever. The house in which it took place is now in ruins; it was pulled down to clear the ground for the guns of the *tête de pont* across the Ganges, and the very outline of the walls is scarcely traceable. It

was originally built for and used as a *zenana*, an enclosed residence, with a court-yard in the centre, in which the stump of a tree was still standing; and off this open space were the rooms in which the massacre took place. The plaster of the walls was still lying about in patches, but I could not detect any trace of blood. Bits of cloth and of women's dresses were still visible amid the rubbish; but there were none of the more painful tokens of the dreadful tragedy which had been enacted where we stood. There is reason to believe that the writing on the plaster, the purport of which you know, did not exist when Havelock's force entered the place. I have spoken with officers who examined the walls and every scratch in the sides of the rooms, and they declare that the appeal to vengeance which is attributed to one of the wretched victims was not to be seen immediately after we returned to Cawnpore, and that it had been traced on the wall by some person who visited the place subsequently. As there was nothing left of the house but a heap of broken bricks and plaster and some few stumps of brick pillars, we walked a few paces further to the well in rear of the house, into which the bodies of the slaughtered women and children were thrown by the murderers. It is now bricked over, and there only remains a small circular ridge of brick marking the wall of the well, which was not more than nine or ten feet across. Beneath rest the mangled remains of our poor countrywomen and their little ones, and standing there we could well realize the strength of that indignation which steels the hearts of our soldiers against the enemy. Within a few feet of 'the well,' surrounded by a small wooden paling, there stands a stone cross on a flat slab, on two courses of masonry, the inscription on which tells its story:—"In memory of the women and children of her Majesty's 32nd Regiment, who were slaughtered near this spot on the 16th of July, A.D. 1857. This memorial was erected by twenty men of the same regiment, who were passing through Cawnpore, November 21st, 1857." This inscription is engraved on the upright part of the slab, which is in the form of a Maltese cross, within a circle of stone. In the quadrants of this circle are inscribed, in red letters and in the old English character, 'I believe in the Resurrection of the Dead.'

There are some other inscriptions similar to that supposed to be written by a woman on the walls of the house of massacre, but they seem to be equally unreliable; and Mr. Russell speaks of "a good deal of doggerel writing of various kinds" on the walls of Wheeler's entrenched buildings, and on those of the bungalows on the line of march.

THE ALLEGED MUTILATIONS.

'The Father of One of the Indian Sufferers' writes to the *Times* to rebuke what he describes as "the mawkish assertion" that no mutilations or indignities were committed by the Sepoys in the early days of the revolt. He states:—

"My daughter wrote some time ago 'that it will never be known in England the extent of the sufferings and misery and the fearful deaths of the victims in India; some had their throats cut with panes of glass, others fearfully mutilated, others—women—suffered worse than death.' I have just had a letter from a friend this morning, of which I give you an extract:—"An old friend of ours has her two oldest friends returned without noses or ears. She says they are cheerful, but miserable objects, and their sufferings were acute." This is only one out of many statements which I have received, sadly confirming the early letters received from India detailing the horrible atrocities and mutilations which had been perpetrated on innocent women and children by our deceitful and treacherous Sepoys. The fact is, that these atrocities have been so fearful and revolting that the sufferers have hidden themselves from public gaze, rather than let them be known."

Another letter has appeared in the same paper to similar effect.

LUCKNOW HEROES.

Mr. A. D. Home, surgeon of the 90th Regiment, mentions in a letter to Colonel Napier, Military Secretary to General Outram, the heroic conduct of three privates (Hollivell, 78th Highlanders; M'Manus, 5th Fusiliers; and Ryan, 1st Madras Fusiliers), who, on the 26th of September, were shut up with him in a house at Lucknow surrounded by the enemy.

THE ORIENT.

CHINA.

THE detailed accounts from China by the overland mail do not contain any very important additions to the telegraphic summaries published last week; but a few items of gossip may be here set down. "Mokh, the Tartar General," says the *Friend of China*, "desirous of ascertaining the casualties among his followers, assembled about six hundred of them the other day, without, in the first place, giving notice to the allied commissioners. This being deemed suspicious, Mokh was placed under arrest, and the men's bows, arrows, and other equipage, taken away from them. On a promise not to offend in a similar manner, the arrest was taken off. Reports of an intended attack on the guards having reached the commissioners, Pih was called on to advise what course should be pursued towards the saucy braves; and though the measures taken have partially allayed anxiety, the

intention of removing the body of Marines and 59th from the old Consoo-house, in the rear of what was Old China-street, indicates a fear that the announcement of 'the re-establishment of tranquillity' is somewhat premature." A combined expedition of Mandarin junks and English gunboats has been sent to scour the Fatsan, Hamilton, and Money-penny creeks, for pirates. Captain Edgell, in conjunction with a Chinese Mandarin, would continue, it was announced, to send out similar expeditions until the whole of the adjacent waters are safe to traders. Pih, the Governor of Kwang-tung, has issued a notification to the effect that he has "consulted about an harmonious arrangement with the two nations of Great Britain and Great France," and that the people may resume their usual occupations without fear. Another proclamation enjoins the people not to carry war instruments, nor to assemble in rank and file, nor to create disturbances. The Bishop of Victoria has been visiting Canton, and preaching to the troops.

A despatch from Marseilles, bringing the intelligence from Canton down to the 14th of February, states that the Governor and the Tartar General were in prison on a suspicion of treason, and that, for the same reason, Yeh had been sent to Calcutta. "The Chinese merchants," it is added, "will not transact any business with the Europeans. The squadrons will proceed to Peking, which is now considered as an indispensable measure. The admirals have interdicted all foreign civilians from sleeping in Canton. Divers are employed in endeavouring to save the money sunk in the Ava."

EGYPT.

The King of Abyssinia has sent a special embassy to the Pacha of Egypt, accompanied by magnificent presents.

AGRICULTURAL WAGES IN KENT.

WHILE we are directing so much attention to the 'great social evils' of large towns, and unveiling the miseries of the Spitalfields weavers and the East-end working classes, it may be as well to give a glance towards those more distant regions of the country which walled-up cockneys are apt to regard as the homes of peace, plenty, and prosperity, but in which misery and crime are as rife as in the midst of cities. The position of the agricultural labourer has not received the amount of attention which it demands. We have all been more or less bamboozled by the idyllic impositions of Protectionist writers, who have represented the tillers of the soil as a race of ideally happy mortals, the jovial denizens of the Elysiums which they cultivate and adorn; and it is only now and then that the veil is lifted. When it is lifted, however, we see the true English labourer as he was represented years ago in *Punch*—a gaunt, worn, hunger-visaged man, sitting in the wretched hut he calls his home, and not seldom sallying forth, in his blind and ignorant revenge, torch in hand against the ricks of those who profit by him, but from whom he derives so little in return. We find that the Will Fern of Dickens's Christmas story may be taken as the type of the whole race; and that when noble lords and honourable gentlemen reward some poor wretch with a sovereign for half a century of service, they bestow unconsciously a paltry crown upon a life-long martyrdom.

A letter which we have received on this subject places the condition of the Kentish labourer in the strong light of facts. Our correspondent writes as follows:—

Minster, Thanet, March 24.

Sir,—As you occasionally examine, and sometimes prescribe for, the blotches in our social system, and as some of a class are discussing how to live on 300*l.* a year, allow me to show you how human beings are existing in a country which we are told is teaching nations how to live—a country boasting a high state of civilization and a pure Christianity. When we are talking about social progress, we find beings worse fed than the beasts of the field, and this in a parish in one of the fairest spots in Kent, amidst a superabundance of human food, where the living of the vicar is more than 800*l.* a year, and containing some of the largest and most-highly cultivated farms in the country. Amid all this plenty, the agricultural labourer's wages are but 12*s.* per week; and one family that I know of, containing in all seven persons—viz, the man, his wife, and five girls—has to exist on this small sum. How it is done, the man's own tale will too clearly explain:—"For weeks I have nothing but bread for myself, wife, and family; for days I have had no food but a few swede turnips which I have picked up. I am in regular work, and walk about two miles and a half to it every morning—which is thirty miles there and home weekly. I pay for rent, 1*s.* 10*d.*; coals, 1*s.* 3*d.*; soap, 4*d.*; 7 gallons of bread, at 11*d.* per gallon, 6*s.* 5*d.*; candles, 4*d.*; total, 10*s.* 2*d.*, leaving only 1*s.* 10*d.* for sugar, tea, coffee, butter, cheese, and meat, which I rarely taste. I have a highway rate account brought in, but I cannot pay it. However, my wife and family shall pick stones off the fields to the amount, if the parish or surveyors

will allow them to do so." The above are plain facts, and I could show you the family. The man never complains, and the above was drawn from him. For the sake of humanity, I should think his name will be placed on the Excused List for Highway Rate; for it is cruel to tax such men to keep up carriage roads, and to ask such a man for a poor-rate seems to me an insult to one's feelings. If this man had no work, and could obtain none, he could have an 'Order for the House,' where he and his family would cost the parish 12*s.* 4*d.* 6*d.* per week for maintenance, and his children would be taught. 'The bold peasantry of England' are being starved into a better world, where the rich man is to meet them. If the rich man believes this, I wonder he does not try and make this world more supportable for the slowly starved labourer. Yours truly,—R. Bunn.

We believe that matters are even worse than this in Somersetshire, where labourers are sometimes paid no more than ten shillings a week. How are 'the bone and sinew of the land' to be maintained in healthy vigour on such starvation wages as these? The truth is that they are *not* so maintained, as the recruiting sergeant will tell you. We are constantly obliged to reduce the height and breadth of chest of our soldiers of the Line; and even the picked regiments of the Foot Guards are no longer the giants that they were. Unhealthy occupations in over-large towns, and starvation wages in the country, are reducing the English race to an inferior physical condition; so that, independently of considerations of humanity, we are all interested on national grounds in the removal of those social diseases which sap our strength.

In a further communication from Mr. Bubb, we read:—

I have this morning had ocular proof of what I had previously stated in respect to the food, and oral evidence of the hard lot of the labourer and his family. The cottage is clean and tidy, the children clean and healthy. I asked them whether they had had any meat for dinner that day. Their answer was, "No; but we have had some suet pudding, and a nice lot of bread." I saw the *very small* stock of butter and sugar, and the man stated that he was troubled at times to get work, and sometimes could not. If the eldest girls were boys, he should be better off, as they could then go out to work. Oftentimes he has nothing from breakfast to supper—that is, breakfast in the morning before he proceeds to work, and supper when he returns in the evening.

It strikes me that our social system must be in a very rotten state to admit of such cases; for why should a man with five girls be less fortunate than one with five boys? As the wife very aptly said, "We could not help their being girls instead of boys."

It has also occurred to me as being something out of order to hear labourers, when out of employ just before the hoeing season, say: "If we can only get a nice shower to make the weeds grow, we shall have plenty of work." And it is the weeds that benefit the labourer, as abundance or scarcity of corn only affects him in a very slight degree, as his wages vary according to the price of wheat—with this difference, that they come down sooner than they are raised.

I have often been struck, in winter time, to hear labourers wishing the roads were blocked up with snow to get a job! So that weeds and snow-storms benefit the labourer. But is it not radically wrong that such things should be, and willing labourers almost starving amid superabundance of food? We have visiting Guardians to inspect the *in-door* rate receivers. Is it not high time we had out-Guardians to see that deserving poor are not being gradually ground into earth? Whose duty is it to see to these things?

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A most dreadful calamity occurred early on Sunday morning in Bloomsbury. Between two and three o'clock, A.M., a policeman, in passing through Gilbert-street—a thoroughfare running from Museum-street, and backed by Great Russell-street—observed some smoke issuing from the ground floor of No. 20, the lower part of which house was used as a carpenter's shop, while the first and second floors were let as private apartments. He knocked loudly at the door, but in another minute the flames burst forth, and, before the engines or escape could arrive, the retreat of the people in the upper part of the house was cut off. The inhabitants of the first floor, however—a man named Eastwood, his wife, and three children—escaped, half dressed, by means of a ladder; and, shortly afterwards, the fire-escape arrived. Some difficulty was experienced in planting it firmly, on account of the road being greatly narrowed by the scaffolding of some new buildings opposite; and, owing to this delay, its services were of no avail. Two families resided on the second floor—one named Smith, the other named Hedger, and counting in all fifteen persons. Before the arrival of the fire-escape, one of the Smiths—a boy of fifteen—appeared at the window, and prepared to jump out. The people below called to him not to jump, assuring him that he would be saved; but he threw himself from the window, and received such shocking

injuries from his fall on the stones that he died shortly afterwards at University College Hospital. His person was found to be a good deal burnt. Of the other fourteen occupants of the second floor, not one was saved. In about an hour after the discovery of the fire, and while the engines were still plying, the whole building fell suddenly to the ground, sending a thrill of horror through the spectators; but this led to the more speedy extinction of the flames, and, when the ruins were sufficiently cool, the firemen and police made search for the bodies. Three hours elapsed before the fourteen corpses were drawn out, and, as each was recovered, it was taken to St. Giles's workhouse. The authorities were not prepared with shells for so many bodies; and accordingly some of the ghastly remains were deposited on saw dust. A good many of these poor creatures appear to have been alive at the time the house fell, the bodies in those cases being marked, not with burns, but with wounds.—An inquest on the bodies was opened by Mr. Wakley on Tuesday, and adjourned for a fortnight, in order that a post mortem examination should be made of some of the bodies, though for what purpose was not stated. The evidence received on the first day did not throw any light on the cause of the calamity. James George Fleming, the engineer of the Chandos-street station for fire-engines, was strongly and pointedly interrogated on the means of communication adopted at the various engine-stations in case of fire. These inquiries resulted in the reply that Fleming had received his information about the fire from a stranger; and that there is no regular organization among the stations to communicate with each other, either by signals or otherwise. The police are generally believed to be entrusted with the responsibility of sending for the engines. The Rev. Mr. Long, one of the curates of St. George's, Bloomsbury, gave it as his opinion that it was impossible for any one to get out of the window of the second floor, because of some boards that were placed against it on the inside. The house appears to have been very ill built: there were no windows to the back rooms, the light being obtained through an aperture communicating with a skylight on the stairs; and the basement was cut away, in order to make an open carpenter's shop. The upper part was supported on wooden posts; and, when the fire had burnt through these, the house fell. On the night in question, Smith (one of the persons now dead) had been drinking, and it appears that he was frequently in the habit of so indulging.

The Rev. W. Hughes suddenly fell back, and expired, in the pulpit of Liversedge Church, near Leeds, last Sunday. He was reading the prayers at the time; and, a minute before, had paused for a moment, turned pale, and then resumed. Apoplexy is supposed to have been the cause of death.

A shell, charged with fulminating mercury and other explosive materials, burst at Woolwich Arsenal on Wednesday morning, during the progress of some intricate experiments. All those who were standing round escaped, with one exception—a man named Forrest, lately a sergeant in the Royal Artillery, but who had recently entered the Royal Laboratory Department of Woolwich. His right arm was fearfully shattered, and it was found necessary to amputate it, which was done under the influence of chloroform, and the man seems likely to recover.

STATE OF TRADE.

A LITTLE further improvement is reported from Nottingham, Leicester, Leeds, and Halifax; but in most other places the utmost amount of dullness continues to prevail. In the general business of the port of London during the week ending last Saturday, there has been little alteration. The number of ships reported inward was 135, including two from China, with 20,278 packages of tea, and 764 bales of silk. The number cleared outward was 98, including 15 in ballast; and those on the berth loading for the Australian colonies amount to 47.

The Revenue Returns for the quarter ending on Wednesday exhibit several favourable points. The Customs show an increase of 644,752*l.*, the Excise of 353,000*l.*, Stamps of 146,496*l.*, and Taxes of 48,013*l.* The Income-tax reveals a decrease of 3,551,882*l.*, consequent on the abolition of the war nineship. The net decrease on the quarter amounts to 2,508,839*l.* The total decrease on the year, as compared with the previous year, amounts to 4,452,550*l.*, chiefly attributable to the operation of reduced taxes.

IRELAND.

THE COLLEGE RIOTS.—The criminal proceedings in connexion with these riots commenced on Friday week in the College-street police-office, Dublin.—The inquiry has continued during the week, but is not yet finished. In the cross-examination of one of the witnesses, a student in the college, an answer was given, which is worthy of quotation as a specimen of Irish oddity:—*Counsel*:—"Did you throw any oranges?" *Witness* (to Mr. Macdonogh):—"Am I to answer that?" Mr. Macdonogh:—"Not if you don't like." *Witness*:—"I did not." (*Laughter.*)

THE UNIVERSITY ELECTION.—The election for Dublin University has closed, after spreading over about a

week. The numbers finally stood thus:—Lefroy, 589; Gayer, 350; majority for Lefroy, 239.

THE POPE AND MR. MAGUIRE, M.P.—The hon. member for Dungarvon borough has been honoured by the receipt of a brief from the Pope, constituting him Knight Commander of the Order of St. Gregory. Mr. Maguire's recently published work on Rome has earned the decoration for him.—*Times.*

AMERICA.

POLITICS in the United States appear to have gone to sleep for the present. The bill for the admission of Kansas into the Union continues, indeed, to be debated in the Senate; but it has not yet passed. There has been another 'personal difficulty.' One member called another a liar, and the compliment was returned. On the following day, however, both senators apologized, and withdrew the offensive expressions.

A petition from the Legislature of Utah has been presented, and read in the House of Representatives. The document recites the alleged wrongs of the 'saints,' and calls upon the President to restore to the Mormons their lost property in Missouri, and to punish the murderers of the Prophet Joseph Smith and the assassins of Parley P. Pratt. They say that, if the Government will restore their constitutional rights, withdraw the invading army, and permit them to make their own official appointments, all will be right; but, unless this be done, trouble will come of it.

The Indians of Florida have signified their willingness to emigrate to the westward of the Mississippi, and a hope is generally entertained that the Florida war will soon terminate.

An election in Kansas on the 9th of March passed off quietly. The enrolment of the Free State Militia is progressing, notwithstanding the Governor's proclamation against it.

The *New York Herald* understands that an action for false imprisonment is about to be instituted against the agents of the Rothschilds in New York by one of the parties who was arrested on a charge of defrauding the Northern Railway Company of France of a large amount of shares.

The Constituent Assembly of Nicaragua has declared the Governments of General Walker unconstitutional and all their acts void and worthless. The denationalization of Walker and his followers has been decreed. The Martinez Cabinet will not sanction the treaty recently negotiated at Washington by Señor Yrissarri between Nicaragua and the United States.

A very remarkable and alarming event has occurred at Alton Penitentiary. A convict, named Hall, one morning knocked down a turnkey, stunned him, dragged him into one of the lower cells, tied his hands behind his back, fastened the cell-door, placed the man against it, and, drawing a large knife, threatened him with death unless he (Hall) were allowed to go at liberty. The act was soon known, and Colonel Buckmaster, the Governor, came with his guards to the spot. They found, however, that they could do nothing. Hall gave them to understand that he would instantly kill Crabb, the turnkey, if any attempt were made upon the door; and, as he spoke, he held his knife within a couple of inches of the man's breast. For upwards of an hour, Colonel Buckmaster and his guards watched for an opportunity to shoot Hall; but there was only one aperture, and the ruffian kept his victim between himself and it. About noon, Crabb made an effort to open the door; but Hall cut him severely in the hand. During the day, he stated his terms of submission to be, a revolver loaded by himself, a full suit of clothes, and one hundred dollars in money; furthermore, he was to be driven out of town in a close carriage, accompanied by Crabb, to such place as he might designate. Of course, these offers were refused; but Colonel Buckmaster obtained a pardon from Government to be used at his discretion. At eleven o'clock at night, one of the guards got a shot at Hall, but to no effect. Hall professed to have no ill-feeling towards Crabb, but refused to let him loose, and occasionally (says the account) "amused himself by pricking his victim with the point of his knife." So passed the night; the convict defeating every attempt to entrap him into coming out, and occasionally lying down against the iron-lined door, where he was safe from bullets. "At nine o'clock on the following morning," continues the account, "Mr. Rutherford, the State superintendent, and Colonel Buckmaster undertook to get into the cell of the prisoner by stratagem. Breakfast was set at the cell door in vessels of larger size than ordinary, but the convict refused to open the door until the hall was cleared, which, after a brief consultation, was done. The governor, superintendent, and guards were on each side of the cell, but out of sight and motionless. The convict slowly opened the door nearly enough to admit the food, when a crowbar was instantly inserted. The governor cried out to Crabb to fight for his life. He accordingly sprang to the opening of the door, and at length dragged himself through, but not before he was stabbed by the convict nine times, seven times in the back and twice on the arms. When the poor victim was dragged out, the convict barred the door again, and refused to yield. He was then given a few minutes for reflection, and, after much dodging and

effort to get out of the reach of the fire, was shot by the governor. The ball struck him just below the left ear, and, glancing round, lodged under the skull. He fell instantly, was dragged out of the cell, and was thought to be dead, but soon recovered and talked as sensibly as any man could under the circumstances. His knife, about eight inches long, with a double edge, was found in the cell, and on his person was another and larger knife. Crabb was immediately taken to the hospital, and his wounds were examined and dressed. The convict was laid on a mattress in the prison hall. He hoped Crabb would live, and in the next breath said he had put five men in the same 'fix' he was in himself. He did not live long."

A negro has been 'lynched' at Antrim, California. He had been placed in prison for the murder of a man; but the mob assaulted the officials, broke into the gaol, dragged the murderer to the nearest tree, and suspended him. The knot being improperly adjusted, the negro, after hanging about a minute, exclaimed, "Lord God, gentlemen, I can't die this way!" He was then lowered, the knot was placed under his ear, and he was soon strangled.

A slave case in California has excited great indignation. A native of one of the southern states resided for a time in California, which is a free state; and he was accompanied by a slave boy. On preparing to return to his own home, the boy refused to go with him, and the case was brought before the Supreme Court at San Francisco. The master contended that the gentleman was merely a sojourner in California; that he had no intention of acquiring a domicile; and that therefore his slave could not claim protection from the laws of the State. It was admitted, however, that he had engaged in business since he had been there, and had set his slave to work; but the court decided in favour of his demand, being indisposed "to enforce rigidly the rule of law for the first time." The poor boy, consequently, was carried off in a cart, heavily ironed, and guarded by policemen. Much indignation has been expressed by the Californian papers.

Distressing news has arrived from Monte Video. By the time the amnesty granted by the Government to the prisoners of Rio-Neyr had reached them, twenty-nine had been shot.

MAZZINI IN ARMS.

Two remarkable documents by Mazzini have been published in the English papers this week. One of these is an address to the Genoese judges who have tried and condemned him and the other Piedmontese insurrectionists; the other is a letter to the French Emperor. In the former, the great Italian agitator thus impeaches the justice of the recent trials:—

"The prosecution itself, with its vague uncertainties; with the contradictory evidence of the witnesses for the Crown; with its revelations, extorted by terror one day and denied the next; with its declarations of soldiers who fail to recognize their assailants; with its mass of useless, non-criminating matter from speeches and writings previously tolerated by the Government, down to letters of private affection basely made the subject of its inquisitions,—must have already shown you that the greater number of the prisoners were ignorant of those preparations now forming the subject of trial; that the police arrested them at random to atone, as it were, for its previous negligence; that this jumble of useless and irrelevant allegations is merely a vulgar artifice adopted by the fiscal advocate in order to confuse the mind and distract it from the sole point of real importance. But it is not my intention to usurp the office of the counsel for the defence in order to exonerate either one or other of the accused. Still I have the right to remind you, in the interest of all the prisoners, and, still more, in the interest of the country which your decision may dishonour or disgrace, that there is nothing in all this *soi-disant* evidence which—I will not say confirms—but which has any connexion with the indictment.

"The charge is, that the secret meetings and plans, the arms and ammunition, the armed bands, another of which (as your fiscal advocate expressed it in his elegant Italian) stormed the Diamante, had for their object the destruction of the legitimate Government of the State, and the institution of another.

"Now, throughout the long and intricate development of the trial, you have not found a single document, a single witness, a single scrap of legal evidence, which indicates any project for either destroying or instituting a Government; a single proclamation implying war to the House of Savoy; a written line proposing to substitute in the place of monarchy (legitimate or illegitimate matters not) a republican form of government. The charge, therefore, falls to the ground."

The insurrectionists, Mazzini implies, only seized on the Diamante in order that they might possess themselves of a steamer by which to aid in the movement against Naples and Austria then being attempted. The ex-triumvir then proceeds:—

"Abolish the constitution? No! Even were it in my power to abolish it, I would refrain from doing so, for the sake of my own faith. The republican education of Italy is not yet complete, and it belongs to the constitu-

tion to complete it. The constitution, administered as it is, with its persecutions of the press; with its confiscations, unfollowed by trials; with its continual violations of individual liberty; with its odious, base, and tyrannical conduct towards the Italian exiles, treated as foreigners in Piedmont; with its excessive taxation; with its Government interference in elections; with its gloomy immorality in official spheres; with its perennial disregard of the honours of Italy, and the national cause; with its concessions to foreign diplomacy; with its adoration of facts, however iniquitously achieved; with its local egotism, and its oblique Machiavellism, dynastic ambition substituted for the religion of the common country—the constitution thus administered, is proving to the nation, better than we could do, that true liberty, equality, and prosperity, are irreconcilable with a form of government which places the monarchical falsehood at the summit of the social edifice; and that to hope for the salvation of Italy from the House of Savoy is a folly permitted to those alone who avail themselves of that hope to indulge their own inert egotism.

"There lives, or rather breeds, in Italy, a monarchico-Piedmontese conspiracy, having no other agent than the one I have indicated, of either frustrating every plan of insurrection or of seizing the leadership should one burst forth. Ever swarming busily in all directions, with its travellers and agents, now under colour of diplomacy, now by means of affiliations and subscriptions, it has its centres of propaganda and agitation which I could point out and name. There exist monarchico-Piedmontese committees in Rome, Bologna, and Florence, and in some of the cities of Venetian Lombardy; and there are secondary centres in other parts of Italy. And I could name to you men, some of them members of Parliament, who act as intermediates, between these poor dupes and the Government. These intriguers busy themselves now, as before 1848, in spreading councils of truth in the House of Savoy, and delay of any popular movement; hints of the deep designs of the Sardinian Government, hopes of a royal initiative, should no other arise to disturb its plans, &c., and when the impatience of these dupes becomes threatening, they mystify them with medals and subscriptions which they entitle the first step towards action.

"The conspiracy has linked itself with foreign pretenders, and I could name to you the man who was sent with introductions to Count Cavour to create a party for the adventurer Murat in Savoy, but he was an Italian at heart, and with him to see clearly was to be undeceived. By means of this conspiracy the Ministry were in contact with the men who were preparing an armed expedition which shortly afterwards took place in the territories of a neighbouring State (I speak of the movement in Lunigiana, to the cry of *Viva casa Savoia*.) This conspiracy made overtures to me but two years ago, when I was, with the full knowledge of the Government, in Genoa, as it made overtures on the question of action; it suggested to me—most probably with a view of feeling the ground—the spot on which my action would give the best pretext for intervention to the Sardinian Government; it asked of me some concessions—probably with a view of after calumniating me as a deserter from my principles, and only withdrew on my imposing decisive conditions which would oblige the Government either to compromise itself by acting, or unmask it and prove it to be intriguing without any Italian aim. I promised to conceal the name of its intermediate, and I shall keep my word, but I pledge my honour for the truth of what I assert."

In his letter to the Emperor, Mazzini reminds Louis Napoleon of the grand promises he made to the people as the reward of their trusting him, and asks whether any one of them has been fulfilled. He promised prosperity to the working man and to the trader; but capital has been diverted from the provinces to Paris to aid in the inflation of gigantic bubble schemes which have now burst, after having stimulated a vast extravagance. Further on, Mazzini, in words of awful denunciation and warning, tells the Dictator that his system of government is based on hypocrisy, lying, immorality, and corruption; that it cannot possibly last, and that the throes of its dissolution are already visible in the frantic and fear-inspired acts of repression which are constantly being committed. Lastly, the writer traces the history of the alliance with England, and tells the Emperor that he only sought that alliance when he had failed to secure the co-operation of the despotic powers of the Continent; that he began and ended the Russian war for his own selfish ends; that he has saved Russia from any really damaging blow; and that the power of the Czar is as great as ever.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

CHATHAM DOCKYARD.—The new Lords of the Admiralty paid their first official visit of inspection to Chatham dockyard on Tuesday afternoon.

SOLDIERS' WIVES AND CHILDREN.—The Secretary of State for War, acting on the representation of the Commander-in-Chief, has sanctioned the formation of an hospital, in the camp at Colchester, for the sick wives

and children of the soldiers, and orders have already been issued to the Military Purveying Department to supply the requisite diet and medical comforts.

IRON STEAMSHIP BUILDING AT SOUTHAMPTON.—A very fine iron screw steamer, built for the Peninsular and Oriental Company, was launched on Thursday from the yard of Messrs. Summers and Day, iron shipbuilders and engineers, at Northam, Southampton. Miss Willcox, daughter of the chairman of the company, named her 'The Northam.'

FATAL COLLISION IN THE IRISH CHANNEL.—A collision of an alarming description took place early on Sunday morning in the Irish Channel, near the Mull of Galloway, by the running down of the brig Albion, Captain Starkey master, bound to Belfast, by the Tubal Cain, screw steamer, from Westport for Liverpool. One man is supposed to be drowned.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

That narrow and unchristian feeling is to be condemned which regards with jealousy the progress of foreign nations, and cares for no portion of the human race but that to which itself belongs.

DR. ARNOLD.

FRANCE.

THE various Marshals under whom France is now parcelled out into military divisions (like England in the time of Cromwell) have been entering on their posts, and uttering very Imperial language at banquets, &c. At Tours, Marshal Baraguay d'Hilliers observed:—"I have come here to secure the maintenance of order, and I will energetically fulfil my mission. We have only one cry—that of 'Vive l'Empereur!' As long as I command in this part of the country there shall be no other. I do not know how to serve two masters." Marshal Canrobert, speaking at Nancy, said:—"The Prefect, in proposing to you the health of the Emperor, expressed the sentiments which fill all our hearts. I will add that the Emperor is not only a crowned head, but a man of the most straightforward and most liberal character, whose heart and genius are always preoccupied with the glory and prosperity of the country; in fact, a sovereign who is at the same time a man of the greatest worth."

The Toulouse journals publish an order of the day from General Féray, in command of the military division there, instructing his troops that, as some ill-intentioned persons lately threw a bottle at a sentry belonging to the 92nd Regiment, which struck him on the head and stunned him, and as moreover five men on another occasion approached a soldier, when placed as sentry at one of the public offices, and only withdrew when he threatened to fire, every man placed to defend a post must have no hesitation in using his fire-arms, if menaced by attack, after, however, having, as far as can be done, given warning to the assailants of his intention to fire.

The reorganization of the Cent Gardes, which has been for some time in contemplation, has now been definitively decided on, and will be shortly carried into operation. The number of the corps will be considerably increased.

Another of the persons wounded by the explosion of the bombs on the 14th January has just died in the Hospital Lariboisière—a girl, named Girodon, fifteen years of age.

The *Monteur* denies that any changes in the French Ministry are contemplated.

"It is remarked," says the *Daily News Paris* correspondent, "that none of the French journals are permitted to translate the Emperor's condescending reply to the letter of Mr. Carpenter, of the 'Discussion Forum.' This is, another among many illustrations of the fact that the present policy of the French Government is to make one set of professions in England, and another in France."

It is stated that a force of one hundred and fifty mounted police will be shortly established in Paris.

The *Patrie* says that the elections for the three seats for Paris, vacant by the death of General Cavaignac, and the refusal of MM. Carnot and Goudchaux to take the oath, will take place on the 18th and 19th of April. M. Jules Favre is spoken of as one of the opposition candidates.

It is an offence in a French journalist even to quote from the published writings of his imperial master. The *Patrie* having recently cited some passages from the works of the Emperor in connexion with the proposed law on false titles of nobility, it was 'invited' (so, at least, the *Times* correspondent is informed) to publish no more extracts from the same source. The Emperor's writings, therefore, are seditious against himself. This is the *reductio ad absurdum* of tyranny.

Marshal Pelissier gave a dinner last Saturday, to which he invited several English officers at present in Paris. The Marshal expressed to those gentlemen his high esteem for the British army.

A deputation from Macon, appointed to arrange the affairs of M. de Lamartine, and composed of the Abbé Naulin, M. Lacroix, President of the Civil Tribunal of Macon, and M. Chamborne, waited on General Espinasse, says the *Times Paris* correspondent, "on Monday, to request permission to open a subscription in favour of their illustrious townsman. The General replied to them in writing that he had been permitted by

the Emperor not only to authorize the subscription, but to place his Majesty's name at the head of the list. 'The Prince,' writes General Espinasse, 'who has struggled for ten years against the excesses of demagogues, does not, and never will, forget the services rendered by M. de Lamartine to the sacred cause of order in 1848, and all the misery and disgrace France was spared by his generous energy.'

A new secret society, called the Icarians, has been discovered at Troyes, and eight of the chiefs have been brought to trial, convicted, and sentenced to various fines and terms of imprisonment.

A corporal of the Garde de Paris has died of sheer horror at seeing the execution of Orsini and Pierri.

A café at Narbonne has been closed by the Prefect on the ground that it was a place in which socialist and anarchical ideas were propagated.

The two guns sent by Queen Victoria as a present to the Emperor arrived at the Tuileries on Tuesday morning, and were inspected by the Emperor and Empress, and several officers of rank, among whom was General Labitte, the former Minister at War, now Inspector-General of Artillery.

A new work by M. Proudhon is shortly to be published, under the name of *Le Bon Dieu au XIX. Siècle*.

The great tenor Tamberlik came out at the Italian Opera-house in Paris on Monday night with immense success. The opera was *Otello*. The singer was slightly nervous at first, but in the second and third acts obtained a great triumph.

M. Carlier, formerly Prefect of Police, is dead.

A woman, the wife of an Italian refugee, has been condemned, by the Tribunal of Correctional Police, to fifteen months' imprisonment and one hundred francs' fine, for using seditious language respecting the Emperor's recent escape from assassination.

ITALY.

The words "Viva Orsini!" have been found written in red letters about the walls and street corners of Rome.

We continue to hear of shocks of earthquake in the Neapolitan territory; and Vesuvius gives signs of an approaching eruption.

The young Englishman, Mr. Hodge, who has been confined several weeks at Genoa, at the instigation of the French authorities, under an impression that he was implicated in the late attempt at Paris, has been removed to Turin, and is now placed in the Ospedale dei Cavalieri.

Giovanni Prati, the patriotic poet of Italy, having lately visited Padua, simply to see his daughter, who resides there, has been peremptorily expelled from the Lombardo-Venetian territories.

The Countess Strozzi, an Austrian lady married to an Italian noble, created a little riot a few nights ago at the theatre at Venice by ostentatiously placing in her hair the Austrian colours. The disturbance that ensued was sufficiently serious to induce the lady to leave the theatre, guarded by officers. She has been ordered to remain in her house for a week.

It is announced from Vienna that insurrectionary movements have taken place among the students of the University of Padua and among the scholars of the Academy of Milan. Both of these establishments have, in consequence, been shut up by the Austrian Government.

Park, the English engineer, has been conditionally liberated by the Neapolitan Government. On the 24th ult., according to a letter from Salerno, "the Attorney-General of the Grand Court received the Ministerial rescript by which the Acting-Consul, Mr. Barbat, was authorized to remove him to the British hospital, for considerations of health; and on the following morning he came over, and we had the satisfaction of receiving and entertaining poor Park on the very day on which Watt must have arrived in England." The trials will be resumed on the 9th inst.

BELGIUM.

Baron de Briere, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has stated in the Chamber of Representatives, in answer to M. Dumortier, that instructions had been given to the Belgian representative at Paris to submit some observations to the French Government on the subject of the difficulties presented by the existing system of passports. He added that the Belgian Government would accede to every tolerance consistent with public safety.

TURKEY.

The state of the Herzegovina, according to the last accounts, was more satisfactory. Order had not been re-established, but the irritation in the minds of the people was softening down, notwithstanding the efforts made by the Montenegrin party to keep up the agitation.

The Porte has desired that all the landed property in Moldavia and Wallachia be relieved, on payment of a fair indemnity, of the obligatory burdens in work and produce which have hitherto pressed on it. There is likewise an intention of abolishing all laws and regulations which stand in the way of purchasing property in those countries.

Several houses and bazaars at Damascus have been crushed in by masses of snow. The loss of life is stated to be considerable.

The Porte has rejected the demand made by the

French Ambassador, M. Thouvenel, for the authorization of the cutting of the canal through the Isthmus of Suez.

RUSSIA.

The Russian troops have recently thrice attacked the Circassians, but each time unsuccessfully. The imperial troops lost a thousand men in these disastrous enterprises.

SWITZERLAND.

The Cantonal Councils of Basle and Neuchâtel refuse to receive the new French Consuls, and the Federal Council of Berne has charged Dr. Kern to make known to the French Government the feelings of reprobation which the new measures relative to passports have produced among the public. Indeed, so great is the excitement, that it is thought it will be almost impossible to carry them out.

It is stated at Berne that Dr. Kern, the Swiss Minister at Paris, has declared to the Federal Council that, if Switzerland should refuse to receive the newly appointed French Consuls, France will reserve to herself the right of withdrawing the *exequatur* granted to the Swiss Consuls in France.

DENMARK.

The Danish Government has sent a reply to the Frankfort Diet relative to the affair of the Duchies. The Danish Government proposes to submit to the States of Holstein the first six articles of the Holstein Constitution, upon which they had not hitherto been called to vote. It moreover engages itself not to present any bills to the Supreme Council which it was the intention formerly to submit to the States, and not to increase the extra tax on the duchies for two years. To settle the differences which exist respecting the general Constitution, the Copenhagen Cabinet proposes that the question shall be discussed by two delegates, one representing Denmark, the other the German Diet, to meet at Frankfort as soon as the States of Holstein shall have expressed their opinion on the subject.

SPAIN.

Some excitement has been created in the Senate by a demand made by Señor Vasquez Queipo that the budget of the island of Cuba should be presented and examined. His second General Concha of extravagant expenditure, and said that the Cuban Government had made itself almost independent of the home authorities. The President of the Council replied that it would be dangerous to call in question the capacity of the Governor-General of Cuba, and that the budget ought not to be discussed.

A royal decree enacts that a general direction of public safety shall be established; and another orders the formation of a battalion of infantry and two squadrons of cavalry under the title of Urban Guard of Madrid, to be organized and disciplined by the Minister of War, while the Minister of the Interior shall direct the manner in which it shall be employed. These establishments are for the preservation of 'order,' and show that the revolutionary feeling is yet strong in Spain.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

MURDER BY THREE BOYS.—Matthew Poppleton, Charles Woodcock, and William Needham, three lads employed at the Barnesley Old Foundry near Leeds, have been examined and remanded before the presiding magistrate of that town, upon the charge of having caused the death, through rough usage, of a moulder employed on the same establishment named Benjamin Clarkson. One morning, Clarkson was at work as usual at the foundry, and went to a box to get a crank handle. One of the boys, who was working at the box, disputed the possession of the handle with Clarkson; but the latter succeeded in obtaining it after a slight altercation with the lad. However, about a quarter of an hour afterwards, the youth vowed that he would have the instrument himself, and called to his aid a couple of his fellow-apprentices. All three went to Clarkson, and told him they were determined to have the handle whether by fair means or foul. As Clarkson refused to yield up the article, a quarrel ensued, in the course of which the boy Poppleton was struck by Clarkson with the wooden handle of a rammer, which so excited the three lads, that they rushed on Clarkson in a body, and threw him to the ground, when Poppleton struck him a severe blow on the crown of his head with a hammer, while Woodcock dealt him another on the side of his head with a heavy iron rammer, which completely stunned him. He was raised up by two men at work on the foundry, and removed to the nearest surgery, where his wounds were examined. Having recovered his consciousness, he was able to walk home; but he gradually sank, and expired on the evening of the same day. An inquest was held, and a verdict of manslaughter returned against Poppleton, Needham, and Woodcock.

CRIMINATION AND RECRIMINATION.—Four persons have been committed for trial from the Wandsworth police-court on charges of robbery and attempted murder. A policeman named Fells watches the case, and this constable one of the prisoners accuses of being concerned in the robberies and of conspiring to obtain money from a young woman. Fells gives a positive

denial to these charges, and proves a previous conviction against his accuser.

MURDER IN LIVERPOOL.—Michael Warey, an American seaman, stabbed a Dutch shoemaker to the heart, on Wednesday night, at a casino in Blundell-street, Liverpool, after a good deal of altercation and scuffling. The wounded man died almost immediately; and the American then commenced an indiscriminate attack on all the other persons present, one of whom he stabbed in four places. Escaping into the street, he was secured by a policeman, and has been committed for trial.

MURDERS AND SUICIDE.—Mr. Peter Williamson, a merchant and farmer residing at Lerwick, Scotland, has killed his wife, a son, and two daughters, and afterwards committed suicide. Another son was seriously hurt, but escaped with his life. The case has not yet been officially investigated.

RESPIRE.—William Davies, the man condemned last week for murdering a woman who had the reputation of being a witch, has been respite.

STREET RUFFIANISM.—Mr. Octavius Freire Owen communicates to the *Times* two instances of boys being attacked in the streets in the open day by prowling ruffians, by whom they have been seriously hurt. In neither case was any assistance to be obtained from the police.

ASSAULT IN A RAILWAY CARRIAGE.—Robberies and assaults in railway carriages are becoming of frequent occurrence. A case of this kind will be found in our Assize intelligence; and another has been investigated at Croydon, where an Irishman is under remand on a charge of attacking and attempting to rob a Mr. John Malley on the railway. The ruffian nearly succeeded in throwing Mr. Malley out of the window, and it took four policemen to convey him from the railway to the police-station.

FATAL AFFRAY.—A lamentable event has occurred at Foulsham, Norfolk. Edward Chaplin, a farmer, and Richard Archer, a butcher, had a dispute about a gun belonging to the former, but left with the latter as security for a loan. Chaplin clandestinely recovered possession of the weapon, and, in a scuffle between him and Archer, Chaplin was knocked down and shot dead.

THE ASSIZES.

CAPTAIN JOHN ANDERSON CHRISTIE, master of the ship *Elizabeth*, of Liverpool, has been tried at the Liverpool Assizes on the charge of murdering Francisco Rodriguez, a seaman on board the vessel. The Attorney-General prosecuted, and the evidence showed that the man died in consequence of the ill-usage he was subjected to on board ship by the captain. Anderson was found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to penal servitude for life.—James Millard, the mate of the same vessel, was also tried on a charge of assaulting the deceased, and, being found guilty, was sentenced to a year's imprisonment with hard labour.

Sarah Brown, a girl of thirteen, has been tried at Kingston on a charge of killing her brother, an infant one year and nine months old. Both were illegitimate; and, on the 18th of January, the mother left the boy and another illegitimate child under the charge of the girl, while she herself went out to labour. On returning home she found that the little boy was very ill, and that he was scalded on the back. He lingered to the 23rd of February, when he died. The girl stated that she had put her little brother into a pan of warm water to wash him, but denied that the water was boiling hot. She also said that she had placed the child before the fire to warm after washing it; and, on the day when the affair happened, she seemed to be very much frightened. The jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

A woman named Annie Sadler has been found guilty at Liverpool of forging and uttering a receipt; but sentence has been deferred, in order that inquiries might be made as to her sanity.

Anne Richards, or Pritchard, an old woman indicted at Taunton for the wilful murder of her husband, has been Acquitted on the ground of insanity. The facts of the case were related in our last issue.

A remarkable action for libel was tried at the same Assizes last Saturday. The plaintiff, Mr. Dudman, was a clergyman, and the defendant, Mr. Shewbrooks, was a builder, and the action was brought to recover compensation in damages for a libel published of and concerning the plaintiff. The defendant pleaded a justification that the words were true. Mr. Shewbrooks had been employed by Mr. Dudman to build a new rectory-house, but, as was said, he did not pay his workmen, and it was supposed that the plaintiff was liable for the payment of the workmen's wages. Mr. Dudman thereupon inserted an advertisement stating that he was not responsible for such wages, and that the defendant alone was answerable. Upon this, Mr. Shewbrooks published a handbill, which was the libel complained of. It charged Mr. Dudman with a wicked and diabolical attempt to destroy Mr. Shewbrooks's credit, and with falsehood. In connexion with this matter, Mr. Dudman wrote the following extraordinary letter to the architect:—"In making such a statement, you have committed a deadly sin—a sin for which it is my duty as God's minister to forewarn you. Except you repent and make restitution the eternal flames of hell await you as a just reward, as

it is written in the Word of God: 'All liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone,' which is the second death. Amen! Trusting you to the way of God in the prayer that He may grant you repentance with salvation, I remain (although I refuse my confidence in you as my architect), your faithful servant, L. SHURREFF DUDMAN." Mr. Justice Willes, in summing up, adverted to this letter, and observed that it was perfectly melancholy to see a person occupying a respectable position, and who ought to set a better example, mingling sacred things with profane in such a manner as had been presented in this case; and he could not help advising Mr. Dudman to consider his own ways, and to abstain for the future from such horrid blasphemy. At this, there was loud applause. The jury retired for a short time, and then returned a verdict for the defendant.

A man named Michael Brannon has been tried at Liverpool for a very serious and audacious crime. He entered a carriage on the Manchester Railway, on the 11th of last February, in which there was only one passenger—a Mr. Richard Wainwright. After the train had proceeded some way, Brannon presented a pistol at the head of his companion, and threatened to blow his brains out if he made any disturbance. Mr. Wainwright became insensible, apparently from fear, and, on recovering himself, he found that Brannon had possessed himself of a small bottle of chloroform which Mr. Wainwright had been purchasing for a toothache. The contents of this the ruffian poured over and into the mouth of his victim, who again became unconscious. When the train arrived at Walsden, the carriage-door was found open, and Brannon had disappeared. Mr. Wainwright was found lying senseless, his pockets turned inside out, his watch gone, and his neck found to be marked by the grasp of four fingers. He had been robbed of 11*l.* in money, besides the watch. For the defence, an *alibi* was set up, but it failed totally, the witnesses being persons of notoriously bad character. Brannon was therefore found guilty, and sentenced to penal servitude for life.

A solicitor, named James Mellor, recently practising at Ashton-under-Lyne, has been indicted at Liverpool for forgery. Mellor, who, besides his business as attorney, had also followed the profession of a scrivener, was some time since employed by Mrs. Mary Clarke, a widow, as agent to a will relating to trust money which had been left by one James Hart, and of which Mrs. Clarke, among other persons, had been appointed executrix. Another lady, Mrs. Fothergill, who had likewise an interest in the will, claimed at one time the sum of 400*l.* or 500*l.*, and Mrs. Clarke gave her an order on Mellor for the payment of the money. The latter sent Mrs. Fothergill 150*l.*, together with a receipt which he had himself prepared; and the lady, after accepting the money, signed the receipt for the amount. Some time afterwards, in consequence of something that had transpired, Mrs. Clarke desired her sister, Miss Hart, to see Mellor, and she accordingly visited him at his office at Ashton, and inquired if he had paid any money to Mrs. Fothergill. He replied that he had, and on producing the receipt at the request of Miss Hart, it was discovered that the figure 1 had been altered by Mellor to 4. When this was shown to Mrs. Clarke, and she saw the alteration that had been made, she said she would keep the receipt; but Mellor objected to this, and begged it might be returned to him. However, he ultimately consented to her keeping it, and made an appointment with Miss Hart to see him a few days afterwards about some other business. Miss Hart went to his office on the appointed day, but did not see the lawyer, and it was subsequently found out that he had left the country, together with his son, who was likewise charged with forgery. An officer of the detective police was sent in pursuit of them, and both the culprits were apprehended in America and brought back to England, as related in the *Leader* a few weeks back. The jury having returned a verdict of Guilty against the prisoner, Mr. Baron Martin sentenced him to penal servitude for life.

William Bryan, aged eighteen, a horse jockey, has been Acquitted at Monmouth of a charge of setting fire to some stables, and thus causing the destruction of the race-horse Van Eycke. The alleged motive was revenge against Mr. Evans, the owner of the horse; but the evidence broke down.

Joseph Ashman has been Acquitted at Taunton of the charge of firing a gun at the Rev. Mr. Mahon through the open window of a church in which the rev. gentleman was conducting divine service, and inflicting on him several wounds. Subsequently, he was found guilty of inflicting bodily harm, and sentenced to a year's hard labour.—On a previous day, another person supposed to be concerned in the same case had brought an action for false imprisonment against Mr. Mahon; but a verdict was given for the defendant.

A betting case was tried at Kingston on Wednesday. The action was brought upon a mortgage deed for 2000*l.* and interest, to which the defendant (a Mr. Fox, well known as a 'turfman') pleaded that the bond was given to secure the payment of bets that had been lost upon horse-racing, and that it was consequently null and void. In his cross-examination, Fox spoke with extraordinary effrontery. He said:—"The plaintiff used to lend me money very often, but I don't think he ever lent me so

large a sum as 1000*l.* at one time. The largest sum I ever recollect him to have lent me at one time was 600*l.* The money was lent me for my convenience, and possibly some of it was to pay losses I had sustained on the turf. I had borrowed money of the plaintiff both before and after this transaction of 1850. In 1856, I was a defaulter on the turf for about 5000*l.*, and since that time I have been abroad. I have been out of the way of my creditors. I only came in their way last Monday. (*A laugh.*) I intend, of course, to get out of their way again as soon as this trial is over. (*Renewed laughter.*) I did not 'show' at Tattersall's on the settling day after the Derby of 1856. I did show on the Monday, and received some bets, but did not pay any. I received 284*l.* for bets. One bet was paid me by Mr. Richard Tattersall, another by a gentleman named Maxwell, and a third by Mr. Whitburn. I did not pay a farthing of the bets I had lost myself. The money I received did not pay my journey to Jersey. I received the money on the Monday, and started for Jersey on the following morning. I believe this is what is called on the turf 'levanting.' (*Laughter.*) The contention on the part of Mr. Hill, the plaintiff, was that the loan was of the ordinary kind; to which it was replied that there was merely a colourable pretence of its being so. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff for the full amount of the bond and interest; together, 2559*l.*

A man named John Devine was tried at Chester on Wednesday for the wilful murder of Thomas Flannegan, in a street fight at Birkenhead. He was found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to penal servitude for life.

GATHERINGS FROM THE LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

MR. COMMISSIONER GOULBURN gave judgment in the Bankruptcy Court, on Monday, in the case of a bankrupt named Munn, who was one of the seventy or eighty retail traders who have been led by the Macdonalds of Glasgow to accept accommodation bills in their favour. His Honour, having referred at great length to the judgments of Messrs. Commissioners Evans, Fonblanque, and Holroyd in other cases of the kind, concluded by saying that it was desirable that the judgments of the Court should, as nearly as was practicable, be uniform. Acting upon this view, the certificate of the bankrupt (third class) would be suspended twelve months, with protection.

William Lakey, a master mariner, is under remand at the Thames police-office, charged with feloniously sinking the brig *Clipper*, of Dartmouth (of which he had the command), at sea, near Dungeness, with intent to defraud the underwriters at Lloyd's. The mate is also involved in the same charge.—The authorities at Gibraltar have been investigating a similar charge against the master, mates, and carpenter of the Swedish barque, *Gerb*, from Newport for the West Indies. Copies of the depositions have been forwarded to the Earl of Malmesbury, Lloyd's, and the Swedish Government.

Three writs of certiorari have been received by the clerk of arraigns at the Old Bailey, removing into the Court of Queen's Bench the trials of Truelove and of Stanislaus Tchorzewski for libel, and the indictment for conspiracy against Dr. Bernard. The trial of Dr. Bernard will take place at the forthcoming sessions at the Old Bailey.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Queen and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Princess Alice, honoured Baron Marochetti with a visit to his studio last Saturday morning.—Prince George of Saxony arrived at Windsor Castle on Wednesday afternoon, and had an audience of the Queen, who has been staying during the week at Windsor.—The ancient charities associated with Maunday Thursday were distributed, the day before yesterday, at Windsor, to thirty-nine aged men and an equal number of aged women, with the usual formalities. The number of each sex corresponds with the age of the Queen.—The Prince of Wales having been examined on Wednesday by the Dean of Windsor, was confirmed on Thursday at the Castle in the presence of the Queen, the Prince Consort, the Ministers, and other company. The Bishop of Oxford read the preface, and the Archbishop of Canterbury performed the ceremony, concluding the service with an exhortation. The Queen and Royal family then entered the Green Drawing-room, where her Majesty received the congratulations of the company.

THE FRENCH EMBASSY.—Sefton House, the mansion of the Earl of Sefton's family, in Belgrave-square, has been taken for Marshal the Duke of Malakoff, and will be the future residence of the French Embassy.

AUSTRALIA.—Mr. Haines's Reform Bill is making progress in the Lower House of Victoria. A modified form of providing for the representation of minorities was sanctioned by the Assembly on the 11th of February by a majority of twenty-four to seventeen.

THE WEST-END AND CRYSTAL PALACE RAILWAY.—The remaining portion of this new line, designed to connect the west end of London with the Crystal Palace and

Brighton lines, was finally inspected, last Saturday, by the directors, accompanied by several gentlemen connected with the railway interest. Some months ago, the line was opened from the Crystal Palace to Wandsworth-common; the remaining portion is that running from thence to the terminus at Battersea. "The line, though promoted and carried out by an independent proprietary, will be worked," says a contemporary, "by the London and Brighton Railway Company under a working agreement, one stipulation in the arrangement between the two companies being that the London and Brighton shall pay for the use of the line and stations a fixed charge or rental of 8000*l.* a-year, or something like one per cent. on the outlay, instead of a toll upon the London and Brighton West-end traffic that may come over this new line. This is a condition from which the public is likely to be largely benefited."

DRUNKEN LUNATICS.—Professor Christison has read a paper on 'The Relations of Habitual Intemperance to the Civil Law' before the President and Fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons at Edinburgh. His object was to show that an insatiable craving after drink is a kind of disease or insanity, and that (in accordance with legal forms) it should be competent for relations to send habitual drunkards to a sanatorium such as already exists for voluntary patients in the Isle of Skye.

COMMISSION OF LUNACY.—An inquiry into the state of mind of Mr. Deeble Peter Hoblyn, a gentleman of property residing at Plympton, near Plymouth, took place at Exeter on Tuesday and Wednesday. The decision was that he was insane.

THE EARL OF MORTON died on Wednesday, after a short illness.

ROYAL THEATRICAL FUND.—The thirteenth anniversary of this Fund was celebrated at the Freemasons' Tavern on Monday evening. Mr. Thackeray was in the chair, and humorous speeches were made by him, by Mr. Dickens, and Mr. Buckstone. It appears that the society has already accumulated 10,000*l.*

CHELSEA SUSPENSION BRIDGE.—This new bridge (over which the Queen passed on Friday week) was first opened to the public on Monday.

MR. HOGAN, the celebrated Irish sculptor, died last Saturday morning in Wentworth-place, Dublin, after a short illness, in his fifty-seventh year.

MR. BRIGHT, M.P., ON FINANCE.—The unemployed of Birmingham having passed a memorial to the Queen, praying for some gigantic system of free emigration, authorized their chairman to ask Mr. Bright to present the memorial. The following reply has been received from Mr. Bright:—"London, March 25.—Dear Sir,—When your memorial reaches me or Mr. Scholefield we will at once take the usual course with respect to its presentation to the Queen. I am sorry to find that the 'unemployed' should be so numerous in Birmingham as to induce them to unite, with a view to some public measures for their relief. At this moment the unfavourable condition of the markets of the United States and of the continent of Europe will account for much of the suffering which is being endured by the working men of England. I confess, however, that I can see no remedy for a large portion of the mischief complained of, so long as we find our taxes constantly on the increase, and our national expenditure augmenting. We are now spending 20,000,000*l.* a year more than we were spending only a few years back, and our military expenses have doubled since the year 1835, when the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel were in power. This year, I suppose, we shall raise in taxes at least 50,000,000*l.* sterling more than will require to be raised by an equal population, living, not in England, but in the United States of America. Surely this will account for much of the evils which you and the memorialists and the working classes generally suffer, and I am not surprised that sensible men should wish to quit a country where the burdens are so heavy and the political privileges of three-fourths of them are so few. Every man who is not prepared to compel a better and more economical Government at home should emigrate, or the pauperism of his day will be deeper and more without remedy in the days of his children. I wish I was able to come to Birmingham and talk to you about these great questions.—Yours very respectfully, JOHN BRIGHT."

MR. DICKENS IN EDINBURGH.—Mr. Dickens read his *Christmas Carol* to the members of the Philosophical Institution, Edinburgh, on Friday week. There was an audience of at least 2000 persons, who expressed their delight and sympathy in the most enthusiastic manner. At the close, the Lord Provost, in the name of the directors, presented to Mr. Dickens a silver Christmas wassail bowl of elegant and elaborate workmanship. This was acknowledged by the novelist in terms of great cordiality.

LORD STANHOPE was installed on Friday week as Lord Rector of Marischal College and University, Aberdeen. He delivered a long address on the good effects of systematic study and mental discipline, and of the cultivation of oratory.

THE ARTISTS' GENERAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—The forty-third annual festival of this association took place last Saturday at the Freemasons' Tavern. Lord Elcho, M.P., presided.

THE VOCAL ASSOCIATION will give a grand per-

formance at St. James's Hall, Regent-street and Piccadilly, on Wednesday evening next, April 7th, when the programme will be entirely Mendelssohn, and comprise the following works:—The First Walpurgis Night, Loreley, Violin Concerto, Capriccio Brilliant, &c. The band and chorus united will number four hundred performers.

MONDAY EVENING CONCERTS FOR THE PEOPLE.—It is intended to commence a new series of these popular concerts, on Easter Monday, in the theatre of the Mechanics' Institution, Southampton-buildings, Holborn, when, in addition to the usual vocal performance, a new musical and pictorial entertainment will be introduced, the designs for which have been kindly contributed by several artists. Mr. S. C. Hall will preside as chairman on the occasion.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—The Directors of the Crystal Palace Company have unanimously elected Mr. Robert K. Bowley to fill the office of general manager to the company. Mr. Bowley is already known to the public as having been one of the officers of the Sacred Harmonic Society, Exeter-hall, for the last quarter of a century.

THE ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS.—The eleventh anniversary of this institution was held at the London Tavern on Wednesday evening; the Duke of Wellington in the chair. There are at present a greater number of applications for the admission of sufferers into this noble charity than the institution can provide for; and an appeal is therefore made to the public for more funds. A sum of 3500*l.* was subscribed during the evening.

THE REFORM AGITATION.—Reform meetings continue to be held. One at Nottingham on Monday evening was largely attended, and addressed, among other speakers, by Ernest Jones.

WAIT, THE ENGINEER.—This unfortunate victim of Neapolitan tyranny is now under the care of Dr. Forbes Winslow. He will talk sensibly on some subjects, but forbears to allude to the question of his imprisonment, being apparently under the belief that he is still in the power of the Neapolitan Government, and that he may criminate himself. His physical condition is very good.

THE LATE ABSTRACTION OF INCOME-TAX RETURNS.—The official correspondence on this subject was published on Monday. The clerk to the Commissioners of Income-tax, who was incriminated in the affair, is acquitted of any evil intention, but regret is expressed by the Commissioners that greater care was not taken in preserving the returns. (It will be recollected that some of them were found to be used by fishmongers in their business.) No specific measures seem to have been taken for guarding against a recurrence of the evil; and the upshot of the correspondence is of a very negative kind.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Under the influence of fine weather, the mortality is much reduced. The deaths in London were in two previous weeks 1487 and 1491; last week, they fell to 1268. In the ten years 1848-57, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1217; but, as the deaths returned for last week occurred in an increased population, they should be compared with the average after the latter is raised in proportion to the increase—a correction which will make it 1339. The present return is, therefore, so far favourable, that it shows the number of deaths less by 71 than that which the average rate of mortality towards the end of March would have produced.—Last week, the births of 1090 boys and 934 girls, in all 1924 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1848-57, the average number was 1616.—From the Registrar-General's Weekly Return.

EMIGRATION.—A meeting was held on Tuesday evening, at the school-room, Whitechapel road, for the purpose of forming a committee for raising and applying funds towards assisting workmen of good character belonging to the British Workman's Emigration Association for facilitating emigration with loans to enable them to emigrate to such of the British colonies as may afford openings for their employment. The Rev. W. W. Champneys, rector, presided, and resolutions were adopted in accordance with the objects of the meeting.

THE MAIN DRAINAGE SCHEME.—A deputation from the several vestries and district boards in the metropolis waited, by appointment, upon the Right Hon. Lord John Manners, her Majesty's Chief Commissioner of Public Works and buildings, on Tuesday, on the subject of the main drainage and sewerage interception of the metropolis. They expressed a strong objection to that scheme, the sanitary necessity for which they contended had not been proved. Lord John Manners promised to give the subject the most minute attention, but declined to express any definitive opinion.

THE TRIAL OF DR. BERNARD.—At the court of Aldermen, held on Tuesday, a letter was read from the Lord Chancellor, announcing his intention to appoint a special commission of Oyer and Terminer to try Dr. Bernard, and to include in the commission the Lord Mayor, all the Aldermen, and the legal officers of the corporation.

MR. LAYARD'S PROGRESS.—Mr. Layard, who was at Indore early last month, was about to leave that city for Agra. From Agra he will descend to Calcutta.

FUNERAL ORATION ON ORSINI.—A person calling himself 'Iconoclast' delivered at the Literary Institution,

John-street, Fitzroy-square—a celebrated place for revolutionary gatherings—what he called "a funeral oration" on Felix Orsini, whom he highly eulogized. There was a numerous attendance.

THE LATE DOUGLAS JERROLD.—We are glad to see that Mr. Blanchard Jerrold is about to commence, in the May part of the *National Magazine*, a series of articles on 'The Wit and Opinions of Douglas Jerrold.' They will make the publication in which they appear a golden beehive of bright and generous conceits.

THE CASE OF THE CAGLIARI.—Dr. Travers Twiss, the Vicar-General, has published a long and elaborate opinion on this case. He conceives that the seizure and detention of the vessel is illegal.

THE BISHOP OF JERUSALEM has been forbidden by the British consul to absent himself from Jerusalem for more than two hours at a time for the present, on account of certain arbitrary proceedings taken by him and others against a Christianized Jew, the only Protestant hotel-keeper in Jerusalem, and at present dragoman to our representative. The other enemies of the Israelite have been placed under the same prohibition.

MR. JOHN SEAWARD, the engineer, well known for various works which he has executed in connexion with iron bridges, docks, canals, &c., and for his improvements in steam-engines, died on Friday week at his residence at Camden Town.

A RESULT OF THE NIGER EXPEDITION.—The ship *George* arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday with a cargo of palm oil and ivory from Laird's Town, Africa, being the first commercial result of the Niger expedition sent out by Mr. Macgregor Laird, of London.

THE PASSION WEEK ENTERTAINMENTS.—Although we may not indulge in theatrical performances of the ordinary kind in Passion Week, we are not debarred from various kinds of recreation. During the present week the Pyne and Harrison Company have been singing at Dury Lane in a series of concerts given by themselves. On Tuesday evening Mr. Hullah gave the last (for the present season) of his orchestral concerts, to the regret of all lovers of music; and, during the whole of the week, Miss Julia St. George has been attracting her admirers to Sadler's Wells by a musical and dramatic entertainment, on the plan of Miss F. Horton's, called 'Home and Foreign Lyrics'—a pleasant miscellany of harmonious nationalities. On Wednesday evening, the Sacred Harmonic Society gave its usual Passion Week performance at Exeter Hall of the *Messiah*, when the vocalists included Madame Castellan, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Thomas. The conductor was Mr. Costa; and we need not say that the Hall was crowded.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, April 3rd.

AMERICA.

The news by the *Kangaroo*, which arrived yesterday morning, is of average importance. The Kansas bill is still being delayed in the Senate. The bill providing for an increase in the army had been passed by the House of Representatives; it provides for the organization of regiments of mounted men for the defence of the frontier of Texas, and authorizes the President to employ four regiments of volunteers to quell the disturbances in Utah, to protect emigrant trains, and to keep the Indians of the north-west in order.

"The House Committee on Foreign Affairs," says the *New York Herald*, "are now considering the propriety of abrogating the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty. It is highly probable they may report in favour of its immediate abrogation."

The ship *Adriatic*, which escaped from the French authorities at Marseilles, had arrived out at Savannah. The New York State Senate has adopted a resolution condemning the Kansas policy of Mr. Buchanan's administration. The Collins' steamers were to be sold at auction, in New York, on the 1st of April. A fight has occurred in the New York House of Assembly between two members, and one of them (Mr. Chatfield) was taken into custody by the sergeant-at-arms.

THE NEW INDIA BILL AND LORD PALMERSTON'S FRIENDS.—It is understood that a general meeting of the supporters of Lord Palmerston's policy will be held at Cambridge-house, next Wednesday, for the purpose of taking into consideration the course they should adopt on the second reading of the India Bill, introduced by the Government, and which is fixed for Monday, the 19th instant.—*Morning Star*.

THE CONTINENT.—Lord Cowley will give a banquet and festival in honour of the Duc de Malakoff, the new Ambassador to England, on the 8th inst.—The Russian pianist, Rubinstein, is now in Paris, creating the greatest enthusiasm in the musical world. The critics are unanimous in their opinion of his powers, and describe his talent in glowing terms.

ANOTHER SUSPECTED CASE OF POISONING IN SUSSEX.—Much excitement prevails in the village of Alceston in consequence of the death of an inhabitant under circumstances which have led to the suspicion that he has been poisoned. The deceased was a labourer, named Stephen Boys, who only survived his wife a few

days. The inquest is adjourned, that Professor Taylor may make a *post mortem* examination.

MUTINY AND MURDER AT SEA.—Considerable excitement has been caused at Sydney, Australia, by the arrival, on the 11th of January, of the American whale ship, *Junior*, of new Bedford, in charge of her first officer, who reported that a mutiny had broken out on board the vessel on Christmas-day, which had resulted in the murder of the captain and the third mate, and the desertion of the ship by the mutineers.

Open Council.

IN THIS DEPARTMENT, AS ALL OPINIONS, HOWEVER EXTREME, ARE ALLOWED AN EXPRESSION, THE EDITOR NECESSARILY HOLDS HIMSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR NONE.

There is no learned man but will confess he hath much profited by reading controversies, his senses awakened, and his judgment sharpened. If then, it be profitable for him to read, why should it not, at least, be tolerable for his adversary to write!—MILTON

THE NEW INDIA BILL.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—Of all the marvellous contrivances that Statecraft ever imagined, assuredly Mr. Disraeli's Bill for the construction of a Government for India is the most marvellous. It is difficult to read the details and to believe the proposal a serious one. The scheme might form some portion of an imaginary conversation upon ideal schemes of Government, in a chapter of a political novel; but it is simply laughable to find it gravely put forth as the proposal of an actually existing Government.

There is to be a Council of eighteen, nine of the members of which are to be appointed by the Crown, under the following restrictions ingeniously contrived to provide beforehand an excuse, should the choice chance to fall upon men the least fitted for the office:—

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| One of the nine, | must have served 10 years in the |
| | Upper Provinces of India. |
| One — | 10 years in |
| | Lower Bengal. |
| One — | 10 years in |
| | Madras. |
| One — | 10 years in |
| | Bombay. |
| One — | must have represented the Company |
| | 5 years at some Native Court, and |
| | must have served the Company |
| | for 5 years besides in some other |
| | capacity. |
| One — | must be an officer in the Queen's |
| | army, who shall have served 5 |
| | years in India. |
| One — | must have served 10 years in the |
| | Bengal army. |
| One — | 10 years in the |
| | Madras army. |
| One — | 10 years in the |
| | Bombay army. |

So far in the number of Councillors the complication seems sufficient. We have civilians and military men, diplomatists and warriors; the one omission is that of the Navy: no naval officer, either of the Company or the Queen, may be named amongst the Nine. But look at the list which we have set down, for ease of reference, in tabular form. Could a more inept or clumsy system of qualification have been hit upon hap-hazard? It must be the veriest chance whether the men of the most real Indian experience may have served out in each special province their several terms of ten years. A varied service must go for nothing. Be there ever so critical a juncture, the fittest man for the occasion must never be removed from Bengal to Madras, or Madras to Bombay; it would be fatal to his future chances of appointment amongst the Government Nine upon the Council. There would, however, be always at hand, as an excuse for having set aside the man of most large-minded knowledge of India in favour of some one in more close alliance with the Government of the day, that the service of the right man was by a few months or days incomplete. But assuredly a certain number of years' residence in the country, whether in the civil, military, or diplomatic service, is no proper test of capacity for its government. There are men of the Warren Hastings, the Clive, Wellington, Lawrence, Napier, or Havelock stamp, who gather more knowledge and more power to use it well in five years than other men in five-and-twenty. But this time test is to stand instead of the direct responsibility of the advisers of the Crown to Parliament. They are to be spared the responsibility of selecting the most advanced and ablest men, and are to have prepared for them in the very constitution of the council the answer for every failure, however grievous or disgraceful, that the time-bound circle of selection left them no better choice. So much for the Crown members of this marvellous mosaic of an Indian Council. Then there are the Elective members again. We present them in tabular form:—

Four are to be chosen by a so-called Indian constituency, that is, by

Proprietors of India Stock,
Shareholders in Indian Railways,
Residents in India for ten years.

They may elect any one who has
Served in India ten years; or,
Lived as a planter in India for fifteen years.

How numerous and how variable this strangely mixed constituency would be it is impossible to guess. Possibly, Indian Railway stock might rise in the market under influence of the hope of its share of the patronage. What a stir there must be in the luxurious precincts of the Oriental Club amongst those whose ten years' service or fifteen years' plantership place them in the category of candidates, entitled not only to enter upon the costly and laborious task—protracted often through years of canvassing—as of old the proprietors of India stock, but with the addition of hunting up in all corners of the country the shareholders, great and small, men and women, in Indian railroads, and all who one time or other had been dwellers in India for ten years. The very idea of the thing is utterly childish and ludicrous. In what respect is this new constituency to surpass, in fitness to select the ablest men as rulers of India, the constituency of Indian proprietors as it is? Is there to be found such marvellous wisdom amongst the proprietors of Indian Railway Stock and the ten years' retired residents that this extension of the franchise has become essential to the right choice of men for this Indian Council? Why not apply the newly invented principle to our own Parliament, and give votes and proportion of members to every holder of stock in all our multitude of railways? If good for Indian, surely it must be good for English government. But this is not the end of the devices for gathering into the model Council the choicest examples of national wisdom. Five other members are to be elected:

- | |
|----------------|
| One by London. |
| " Manchester. |
| " Liverpool. |
| " Glasgow. |
| " Belfast. |

These are to be chosen by the Parliamentary constituencies of the five favoured towns, as they are, or as they may be amended. And, again, the choice is not to be a free choice. The candidates must either have been employed in commerce with India five years or have lived there ten years. Those under the first head must be pretty numerous in every one of the electing towns. There could hardly be a cotton spinner, or cotton broker, or silk manufacturer, or wine merchant, or Bitter Beer, or Porter brewer not duly qualified to become a candidate for a seat at the Indian Council and 1000*l.* a year. Parliamentary elections are admittedly bad enough, but in all matters of bribery, coercion, fraud, and corruption, they would be thrown into the veriest shade by these elections for the Indian Board. How much it would pay to spend upon votes for the chance of the 1000*l.* a year could be easily calculated; and for the rest, for the better class of voters, the patronage would be Bribery in perpetuity.

Let any one who has ever witnessed the disgraceful scenes of a hotly-contested election at Liverpool testify how far the election of Indian councillors to receive a thousand a year and bestow appointments in India would tend to mend the morals of the town. Party spirit would be more violently brought into action than ever; the votes of the old freemen, having in the Indian case a determinate value, would rise in price—the old floodgates of treating and bribing would be once more thrown open—the Indian adviser of the Crown, the eighteenth-part governor of 150,000,000 people, would be floated into the Council upon a sea of Beer, by a majority of purchased votes, and would take his seat as an independent member, half ruined by the cost of the contest and weighed down with the load of promised appointments.

But the truth is, this Bill was never meant to pass—it was never brought forward with the intention of its becoming law. It has no other aim than that of a Dissolution. The idea, doubtless, was that this elective council would be popular, that at least the five towns would stand by it. Unhappily for the author of the device, the people of England look upon the governing of India as a stern reality, just now very momentous. They consider, too, that India is, at the present moment, not at all in a condition for raw experiments in governing. They know the world is looking seriously on, and that nations of every tongue, and people of every land, are asking one of the other, How will England set this Indian matter right?—how place this distant limb of her empire in a condition of amendment and of progress? Assuredly not by this device of a Council. Either India must be governed, as the rest of our dominions, by the Executive unmisstakably responsible to Parliament, or it must be left to govern itself. No Metropolitan Board of Works, constitution, with a Thwaites of its own and endless talk, can ever rule that mighty Empire.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

SIMPLICITAS.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CIVIS ROMANUS.—We have to thank our correspondent for his letter and the accompanying Essay. We shall pay particular attention to both. We shall be further obliged if our correspondent will permit us to retain the volume until the end of next week, when it shall be returned to his private address.

MR. JAMES GRANT'S letter has been received, and engages our consideration.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatsoever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1858.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—**DR. ARNOLD**

LORD ELLENBOROUGH'S INDIAN JUGGLE.

THE Apocalypse has burst upon this generation. Lord ELLENBOROUGH is The Coming Man, and his India Bill is the Asian Mystery, a concentric Chinese ivory ball, carved from the tusk of a tame elephant, a complex wonder to captivate the pruriency of curious eyes, a symmetrical mechanism with invisible joints, a polished, carved, convoluted globe, tossed in the air by a juggler who has studied magic and manipulation on the banks of the Ganges. With this measure in our hands we are savages anatomizing a watch. It is easy to separate the parts; but, when once the screws, cogs, axles, and spiral springs have been disturbed, all the Queen's Parliament will never put them together again. Politicians who put their trust in the Bill must not examine it too closely, otherwise they will detect the kaleidoscopic secret; they will learn how all this brilliance is produced by a few bits of transparency shaken together and harmonized by an optical illusion. Never was so composite a project submitted to a practical Legislature; it is a cabinet of curiosities from all the disorders of political architecture—the Greek, the Roman, the Venetian, the styles of LOUIS XIV. and NAPOLEON—a supreme minister at home, a viceroy in India, nine nominated and nine elected members. The Coming Man has had his *beau moment*, and this is what he has made of it.

The bill is, generally, an imposture. It provides for everything except the better government of India. It establishes an invisible despotism under the mask of an elective franchise. It creates a council of nullities whose only office would be to screen the Minister. It erects a home government to fetter the local authorities with whom the real responsibilities of Indian administration lie. It leaves totally unsettled every great question arising out of the recent mutiny. It destroys what worked well under the late system, and substitutes nothing better. To state the matter fairly, we will admit that it is a more plausible measure than Lord PALMERSTON'S. It professes to provide for the representation of various important interests in the home government of India. It calls into existence a more popular consultative body. But Lord PALMERSTON'S Council, although unnecessarily restricted, was more in the nature of a Council of State than Lord ELLENBOROUGH'S, being qualified not only to deliberate but to advise independently and with an initiative. Lord PALMERSTON'S Councillors acted with the President, Lord ELLEN-

BOROUGH'S President acts above the Councillors. Lord PALMERSTON'S were nominees, and their nomination rested upon the responsibility of the Cabinet. Lord ELLENBOROUGH'S are to be partly sanctioned, in the first instance, by Parliament, and partly elected by the Leadenhall-street proprietary and five great towns of the United Kingdom. Now, this elective scheme is singularly specious but it is founded upon a radical fallacy. The constituencies elect the House of Commons, and the House of Commons is responsible for governing all parts of the empire, east or west. To Parliament, and to Parliament alone, as representative of the country, the administrators of India should be responsible. If London, Liverpool, Birmingham, Dublin, and Belfast desire to lay the basis of good government in British India, they will instruct their members to act in the Imperial Legislature, and at this point their direct functions naturally and constitutionally cease. It is quite unnecessary to vest them with powers to seat the most opulent and liberal of old Indians in one of Lord ELLENBOROUGH'S six committees, with none but consultative functions, and with no responsibility beyond that of hanging an occasional protest round the neck of the Minister. The very constitution of the Council renders it impossible that any independent man will ever belong to it. The seats and the salaries, in fact, would be distributed among solemnly garrulous individualities content to be shelved upon an eminence of foolscap and green baize.

But it is of comparatively little importance what form is assumed by the Home Government of India, so long as it is single, represents the interests affected, and is subject to the absolute control of parliamentary and public opinion. Neither Lord PALMERSTON'S bill nor Lord ELLENBOROUGH'S secures this object; but both are still more objectionable in that they leave to chance the local administration of our Indian empire. That empire must be practically governed within its own geographical limits, and not by a Council telegraphing from London. A Minister or a Board at home despatching messages to the Governor-General at Calcutta, never will or can maintain more than a general superintendence of policy, acting as the link between the Crown, as the dominant power, and the real Government of India in India itself. A Council of eighteen, if carefully selected, might lay before the Minister a precis of information upon every important Indian subject, and in the last resort appeal to the public in support of their views. But beyond this, what could they do? Lord ELLENBOROUGH'S bill creates a fiction in the imperial metropolis, and provides literally nothing for India. What are to be the functions, powers, and responsibilities of the Governor-General, the local Governors, and the ordinary Civil Administration under the new system? What is to be the organization of the Army?

It may be objected that these questions do not fall within the cognizance of Parliament, but constitute the main details to be dealt with by the new Minister and his Council. That, we insist, is the danger of the ELLENBOROUGH Bill. If the essential problems connected with the civil and military administration of India be not disposed of before full powers are conferred upon a supreme functionary in London, with prodigious self-confidence, and a perilous faculty of invention, we warn the public that the acquiescence of Parliament will throw into Lord ELLENBOROUGH'S hands the despotic sway of the East—a sway which, if arbitrarily or unwisely exercised, may ruin our Indian empire before a single point can be again raised for discussion in the Legis-

lature. Let us have some guarantee, some binding provisions, some declared course of imperial policy. Has the rebellion taught us only that we should confide unlimited discretion over immense establishments, and a most delicate institutional machinery, to the dithyrambic Hero of SOMNATH?

Firstly, with reference to the position of our future governors-general. Under the double government the powers of this officer, although not perhaps greater than his situation warranted, were, in fact, far greater than they seemed. If the President of the Board of Control issued instructions not approved by the Directors, it was easy for the Board to transmit a parallel statement of their views, and of their trust in the independent and salutary discretion of the Governor-General. If, again, the Directors persuaded the Minister at Cannon-row to an unwilling assent, what so obvious on the part of Mr. VERNON SMITH or Lord RIPLEY as to intimate his objections privately? In either case, the Governor-General would have the support of one authority at home, and practice amply proved that a resolute administrator would frequently ignore and even diametrically oppose an order from London. Under the proposed bill, however, the President and the Board would be united; the new Minister would be a despot in the chair of the Board of Directors; and the Governor-General would be liable to immediate dismissal for any act of disobedience. The question is, shall the Governor-General be a mere agent, or an administrator responsible for his policy? If he be subordinate, if he have no power to deviate from a line marked by the President at home, he must manifestly be relieved of all responsibility. In that case, Lord CANNING would resume his old position as Postmaster-General at Calcutta instead of St. Martin's-le-Grand, for he would be no more than a receiver of letters on her Majesty's service from England, and a distributor of letters on her Majesty's service to the Indian provinces. All this is left open by Lord ELLENBOROUGH'S Bill, and a word is necessary to show that it would be easier for the new system than for the old to ruin the British-Indian Empire.

The grand duty of the Crown Minister and his Council should be to filtrate the details of Indian questions and place the result clearly before Parliament and the Cabinet at home, and to appoint the best men as civil and military chiefs in India. The Legislature will inevitably fail if it provides only for a readjustment of the Indian machinery at home. It accredits a great proconsul to Calcutta, and is it to dissolve the existing relations between him and the authorities in London without defining his future position, his powers, or his responsibilities in the local government of an empire almost as large and quite as various in conditions, creed, and race, as the old continent of Europe, and separated from England by half the circumference of the globe? We may bite the chains of nature, but they bind us still. The truth is, that India will not be yoked to a telegraphic wire. We cannot centralize its administration in London. We cannot even centralize it at Calcutta. If questions of peace and war, of general finance, and the appointments of able governors-general and governors of presidencies fall within the prerogative of the President and his Council, the selection of efficient local administrators, commanders, and councillors, the management of relations with native Courts, and the general maintenance of free communication and public works should form the principal business of the Governor-General. Let him endeavour to centralize details, and be under-

mines the props of our imperial authority. He can no more gather in his own hands the actual administration of British India than a council sitting at Vienna could stereotype according to ancient precedent the official procedure of every province in England, France, Germany, Italy, and the Ottoman dominions. We may establish a common principle but not a universal method. What would be well-timed in one district of British India might be ill-timed in another; wisdom at Calcutta might be folly at Lahore; beneficence in Madras might be tyranny in the North-West Provinces. The old maxim, that refined policy has ever been the parent of confusion, prohibits the establishment of administrative unity in India. We have conferred a civilized government upon India, but that government is perpetually in danger of becoming too strong for the people, of forcing their growth, of encumbering them with new institutions. The nations of the East progress slowly, and while they advance, it is our principal duty to stand by and keep the peace. What is to be done in the way of interference should be done on the spot by honest and capable men, intimately acquainted with the peculiar requirements, conditions, customs, and creed of the provinces and populations under their control, untrammelled by pedantic regulations, undelayed by continual references to Calcutta or London, with full power and full responsibility. It is for the Central Government to select administrators for India, to trust them when selected, to disgrace them for misconduct, but not to visit their failures upon their successors by loading a commissioner in Mairwaira or Mooltan with a pack of instructions assorted in Cannon-row.

These questions are left unsettled by the Government Bill. Of parallel importance is the future organization of the Indian army. The Chancellor of the Exchequer announces that it is not at present in contemplation to propose any change; but the President of the Board of Control had previously declared in favour of the military occupation of India by a British force. It is true that Mr. DISRAELI hints at certain innovations 'necessarily resulting from the general scope of the bill,' but he must be a little more precise before the public will ratify the Government scheme. The question stands thus: Are we to govern India by the natives themselves, or by a permanent military occupation? Is it to be a British India, or an Indian Algeria? There is an incredible rumour afloat that Government contemplates a system of half confidence in the natives, that it is proposed to pass penal sentence upon India, to trust the Sepoy with an old Brown Bess but not with a Minié rifle, that English gentlemen are to command soldiers whose range of fire is limited to a hundred yards, lest they should pink their own officers at six hundred. As if to degrade the native troops would be to secure their loyalty; as if a vast region abounding in impenetrable wildernesses could be disarmed; as if India were a walled town; as if a perennial Pindaree war were the best security of our empire. Upon these vital points the Government pronounces no opinion.

With all its elaboration, the ELLENBOROUGH India Bill is miserably incomplete; popular in aspect, it is an attempt to create a bureaucratic despotism; it is a mass of incoherency and contradiction, and, if established as law, would leave utterly undetermined every problem arising directly from the recent conclusions in British India. The legislative legerdemain of the DERBY Cabinet results in a gigantic juggle; but if this be thy mystery, O DISRAELI, and if the Coming Man be ELLENBOROUGH, better let drudgery sit in high places, for genius is clearly not to be trusted.

THE NEW DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS.

HALF a dozen important changes have been made by the present Government in our diplomatic representation at the courts of Europe; but if we might find some fault with certain representatives of the country abroad, we have no confidence in the substitutes; and, in some cases, the change is certainly the reverse of good. We have a very intelligent, efficient, and thoroughly English statesman at St. Petersburg in Lord Wodehouse; we desire to say nothing against Sir John Crampton, the present Minister at Hanover, but in the United States he failed either to conciliate our ally or to maintain our independence. Lord Howard's conduct at Madrid is *sub judice*, and Mr. Buchanan may be an efficient successor. Mr. Elliot may do as well as Mr. Buchanan at Copenhagen; but we have yet to ascertain the fact. Mr. Howard may be less negative than Lord Normanby at Florence; for who knows Mr. Howard, or what he is, except that he has been a not very efficient Secretary of Legation at Paris? And Lord Chelsea's qualifications for Paris are unknown to any living soul.

There is one conclusion which is established by these changes: if any of them are for the better—which might perhaps be shown by straining a point,—upon the whole they are much for the worse. The public gains nothing; it is a tribute to the party at the expense of the empire; it is a sacrifice of efficiency to routine. According to the scale of payment, the posts in question ought to be most important to us; and in proportion as their duties are momentous is the offence of filling them with men that are unequal to the work. Many of them are places greatly more important than the posts in the Council of India in which the salary is to be only 1000*l.*; yet who would elect Viscount Chelsea or Mr. Howard to the Council? Or, if the Council is at all properly filled, who would venture to say that the principal members of that Board are persons *inferior* to Lord Chelsea or Mr. Howard? It is a gross misappropriation of patronage and pay, therefore, if these important offices are handed over to men unequal to their duty.

One excuse, indeed, may be made. It is, that the posts are *not* of importance; that it is customary to have such functionaries abroad, but that any person trained in the routine of that department, and the customs of the country in which he lives, can conduct the business of an embassy. May be so. We are inclined to think that the excuse holds good; but then what becomes of the public money paid to maintain these offices? It is, of course, simply wasted, and the recent appointments are as strong evidence as we could have made up for ourselves to prove what we have long maintained—that permanent embassies are costly encumbrances which return no value for the country.

The notion is, that a British statesman residing near the court of a foreign sovereign assists in representing British interests, and in protecting British subjects. But how far does the fact answer to this view? What peculiar power have British Ambassadors exercised lately in France or Italy to defend and promote British interests? What have they done which could not have been done by British Consuls, and perhaps in some respects better done? A nobleman or a gentleman who is sent over to a foreign country as a permanent resident, inevitably becomes, to a certain extent, infected by the atmosphere; he grows reconciled to the customs of the place in which he lives. Removed from active business, a slow life becomes habitual to him; he tolerates what is hateful to British feeling, and grows, in short, rather an advocate of any foreign abuse, however fatal to the welfare, and sometimes to the safety, of his countrymen. It was Lord Normanby who sanctioned the French expedition to keep down Rome; it was Lord Cowley who saw the possibility of reconciling his duty as an English representative with acquiescence in the Imperial dictation. Permanence of residence, we find, only ends in denationalizing the representatives of the nation. So purely ornamental have some of these offices become, that they are regarded as proper retreats for gentlemen who have not succeeded in public life at home, or who are superannuated. Florence was a provision for the old age of Lord Normanby; the Paris Legation is a retreat for the parliamentary inefficiency of Lord Chelsea. Thus the higher diplomatic appointments have become sinecures which are supposed to be in the gift of the Minister of the day for the benefit of his friends and connexions.

We are far from pronouncing that embassies and ambassadors are on all occasions useless; on the contrary, such means of communication between

the crowns of two countries are absolutely necessary; but they lose their force and validity by being made permanent. The ambassador degenerates into an exile naturalized in the country where he resides. He half forgets the country for which he is sent, and dawdles away the duties of the half that he remembers. The real want is a special Envoy for each occasion, his residence to cease as soon as his mission has terminated. Let an English statesman go, hot and hot, from London, filled with the importance of the particular duties which he has to perform, and we have some chance of zeal and activity. It were better to spend the money laid out on embassies in giving efficiency and dignity to special missions, than to waste it, as it is now wasted, on the maintenance of sinecures which end in providing stated apologies for the wrongs that foreign countries do to us.

WOMEN AND WILLS.

A WILL case in the Chancery Court on Tuesday opens up the whole question of the power of persons to dispose of their property after their death. In itself the case is interesting. A gentleman named Barkworth, lately residing at Hull, died, leaving his moneyed property to two daughters (his only children) on peculiar conditions. The father had, it seems, quarrelled with all his wife's relations, and with several other persons. He therefore made a schedule of one hundred and twenty-six persons whom his daughters, on pain of forfeiture of the inheritance, were not to marry; and, in addition, he forbade them to marry any person within certain specified degrees of relationship and connexion—carrying in this respect his prohibition far beyond the law of the land, or even the very strict canons of the Roman Catholic Church. The young ladies are twins, and are now nearly seventeen years of age. It is certainly a curious position for two English girls to find a certain set of men, numbering probably at least two hundred, shut out from the list of possible husbands. The world, it is true, is wide enough, but we can easily understand the excusable curiosity of the young maidens to know some of the sinners exiled from the paradise of their love, and if pity for the unfortunate men developed itself into love it would be a very natural consequence indeed in the heart of any daughter of Eve. One can imagine the young ladies suddenly discovering in a ball-room some of the forbidden fruit, and the sudden whisper, "Mary, he is one of the men we are *not* to marry!" When the father selected one hundred and twenty-six of his acquaintances (for we cannot suppose that, like *Captain Absolute*, he objected to persons he knew nothing about), and added to them a wide sweep of relations and connexions, he must have embraced, or rather shut out from the embraces of his daughters, a very large local circle of the eligible men of Hull. Possibly some of the expelled may heartlessly regard it as a release; and some feminine pretenders to individual hearts amongst them must thank the irritable old gentleman for diminishing rival attacks on the besieged fortresses. Some of the forbidden are of course plunged into all the agonies of '3 vol. octavo' despair. Considering that it is now the custom to give portraits and 'lives' of all groups and series of celebrities—from groups after photographs of the most eminent orators of the Discussion Forum to lives of the Waterloo-bridge toll-keepers from the earliest period to the present time—we do not despair of seeing in the illustrated papers portraits of the one hundred and twenty-six special unfortunates, with fac-similes of their rejected addresses, and short memoirs of their melancholy careers. But why 'melancholy'? Equity may rescue them from that only resource of unfortunate lovers, an early grave; the restricted damsels of seventeen have, by their guardians, applied to Chancery for leave to oppose the will. The forbidden cousins and the other set, forbidden though not cousins, should form a society to emancipate themselves and appeal to a British Parliament for a new law, removing the terrible prohibition which shuts within a legal deer-park the tempting twins, moderately rich and sweet seventeen. These persecuted young men are nearly as numerous as the Jews who wish to get into Parliament, and possibly as interesting as all those cruelly-used sisters-in-law, who, it is said, are waiting for a new law to disturb existing homes, demanding 'divorce for two and a wedding-ring for the survivor.'

A case that came under our observation might offer a hint to the protesters against the will. A gentleman left his property to his daughter, an only child, but with the condition that she was not

to have it should she marry without the unanimous consent of four guardians. A gallant officer saw her, loved her, and was loved in return, but when he came to consider his chances of bringing the guardians to a unanimous assent, he found that one of them had a strong prejudice against military men, and that another had a son who was himself a pretender to the lady's hand (and fortune). This was a difficulty for the two ardent lovers: the will was positive, and the gallant lover was poor. A young lawyer read the will, drawn up in short stern sentences by the father himself, and nothing could be more clear than that the young lady was to lose the property should she marry without the consent of the four guardians. But the document omitted to specify any person to whom the property was to revert on the daughter's disobedience. "You may get married to-morrow," exclaimed the lawyer to the young pair. "Yes," rejoined she, "and by the will lose the property." "Yes, lose it by the will, but retain it as only child, and, therefore, heir-at-law. The will falls to the ground, and you succeed as if your father died intestate." The lovers were married, and were doubtless as happy as the honeymoon was long. A similar defect may lurk in Mr. Barkworth's forbidding will.

There is a serious side to the question. Should the will be set aside on the ground that it is immoral and unreasonable, how may the rule act as regards other classes of wills? In the great Thelusson case, a will which set aside for several generations an enormous sum of money to accumulate at compound interest was declared null and void, on the ground that the money at the expiration of the time would amount to a sum so large that the owner of it might make his power dangerous to the State. In the case of the Bridgewater will, the testator gave his property only on condition that the legatee should obtain a Marquissate, and the condition was declared null and void, as it was considered detrimental to the interests of the State to induce any person, by offer of material advantage, to compass the attainment of a title, as it might prompt him to use corrupt means. These are instances where, on grounds of public policy, the wishes of testators were unceremoniously set aside. Conditions incompatible with the primary, or principal, intentions of testators have also been declared null and void, as in the case of Oxford colleges, to which money was left for the encouragement of learning, but on the condition that masses were said for the founder's soul. There is a class of wills which, though they offend no public feeling, and do not militate against the interests of the State, yet are, in the full sense of the word, *contra bonos mores*. There are cases where old men, married to young wives, have prohibited a second marriage; and if the widow be young and childless we know of nothing so decidedly against good morals as prohibitions to marry, unless the will or the law could at the same time secure the young widow against loving. We have heard, though on no better authority than the talk of private circles, that such wills have in some instances been set aside, and we should certainly approve any action of the law which would interpose to set aside provisions dictated by this curious dog-in-the-manger jealousy of dying husbands. Where children, deprived of their father, are left in the charge of the mother, there is a good ground for providing against a second marriage, or at least of securing that the interests of the children shall not suffer by such event. But to shut up in compelled celibacy a young widow is a barbarous device of malicious testators, is, in fact, as directly against good morals as the excess of nunneries in Spain, and should be discouraged by the law.

THE INDIAN COLONIZATION COMMITTEE.

THE duties of the committee appointed, on the motion of Mr. William Ewart, to inquire into the propriety of colonization in India, are of vast importance at this moment, for the results may go far to assist or to retard a movement second in its influence only to the transfer of the government to the British Crown. From whatever causes, India has remained to the present time a field closed to British enterprise; the masters of the soil have been the last to seek to reap the harvest. The first want of India has been overlooked; we have held but not secured our possession. The one thing necessary to make it ours, and to give us the full advantages of so noble an acquisition, we have kept from it—English mind. The service which Mr. Ewart's committee has to perform is to demonstrate

the practicability of supplying to India what has hitherto been denied to it; that the practicability of doing this is demonstrable we entertain not the smallest doubt.

Objections such as those urged by Mr. Baillie and Colonel Sykes in discussing Mr. Ewart's motion, as to the insalubrity of the climate and the consequent impossibility of establishing a large European population in India, are of no account. It is not necessary to assume that a large European population is needed to work out the ends of the colonization absolutely necessary to develop the resources of the country. It is not a question of numbers, but of quality. Field labour and skilled labour are in demand in our colonies of Australia and America, but the demands of India are of a totally different sort. There, the demand is for intellect, knowledge, the power of applying to the productivity of the earth and of the native mind the scientific and moral advantages of Western Europe, and, before all, of England.

The great articles of Indian produce are—opium, cotton, and indigo. The cultivation of these has never been placed upon a reasonable footing. The land has been held often by a tenure amounting to little more than villainage, farmed with insufficient capital, and with an utter lack of any but the most primitive apparatus; the products have always found their way into the hands of a class of traders not very unlike the middleman of Ireland, whose interest it is rather to keep the cultivator poor and needy than to enable him to attain the means of large and independent action. One of the main objections urged against attempts to develop the natural products of the country is, that such development can only be looked for in the employment of large capital; precisely so, and the furnishing of that element would be one of the natural consequences of a proper colonization. The chief hindrance to the cultivation of cotton, according to Mr. Mangles, is the dishonesty of the Natives in whose hands it has to be transferred from the spot where it is grown to the seaport, the only remedy for such a state of things being the employment of European agents. Why should they not be employed? But, doubtless, it would be found that not only European agents but European system is what is required to obviate this objection. It is admitted that almost any amount of cotton may be grown in India, the obvious advantage of the development of this great faculty being to make us, by means at our fingers' ends, independent of America. If the Manchester cotton-merchant wants Indian cotton, let him go to India and grow it—if he can, say the opponents of Indian colonization; but the merchant is not called upon to step out of his own province: what he wants is, to find cotton grown for him, in quantity and quality equal to his needs, and he wants everything to be done that is needful to assure him against disappointment. How ready India herself is to meet large demands upon her even at the present time and under the pressure of great disadvantages, is to be judged by the effects produced by a rise in the price of cotton, consequent on the falling off of the American crop: 220,000 bales of cotton were obtained from India last year more than had ever before been obtained—a sufficient proof that the powers of India have still to be developed.

Whatever the views of the East India Company at the present moment, it is certain that they have in past times put every possible impediment in the way of an extensive European colonization. Their supreme dread, as Harriet Martineau has said, was of the colonization of India from Europe. They have never appeared competent to the management of the finance, or the commerce of their vast possession. "Several of the best men in India—among whom was Metcalfe—testified that the plainest and shortest way of obtaining a revenue was to develop the resources of the country by the utmost freedom of trade and colonization; while others, among whom was Malcolm—preferred debt and difficulty to any experiment which should throw open the country to European residents, by whom (they took for granted) the natives would be oppressed and insulted, so that the English would be driven from the country. The events of the day," remarks Miss Martineau, "spare the necessity of rebuke or reply."

But with the removal of the India Company we have no longer to look for a policy of exclusiveness. That great impediment has been removed, or rather, has crumbled with age. We have railways, telegraphs, vast canals, already at work; we now want men to turn to best account all those advantages, and to be ready to apply a thousand more.

We want to have the means of bringing cotton safely to the seaport; of raising crops of indigo, and sugar, and opium, with all the advantages of a large and systematic cultivation; we want to grow tea to the full extent of the power at hand; we want to open up trade with Thibet; and we want to do other things, all promising profit to ourselves, the good of the native population, the stability of our empire in India, and all within the scope of British intellect, perseverance, and capital.

By means of a large and intelligent European colonization we say that all we want to do can be done by us, if we have a fair field laid open. Now it is precisely the determination of the best means of opening this field that falls to the task of Mr. Ewart's committee. What it is most desirable to obtain from the gentlemen forming it is, not a big blue book, exhausting the subject, and useless from its very completeness; but such a clear, well-defined statement of the present agricultural and commercial condition of the country as may enable us to judge of the remedies needed for obvious defects; the feasibility of applying capital in this or that direction; the nature of the tenure under which land is held, with the quality of the land in reference to the uses to which it is obviously most applicable. In short, if they will furnish us with a well-digested and well-arranged handbook, they will do exactly that which is required to enable us to decide the feasibility of what we term most vital to the interest of India, morally and commercially—its European colonization.

TURKEY SINCE THE WAR.

THREE Continental tourists have visited the Turks in their European encampment since the Peace of Paris, and M. St. Marc Girardin has compared their reports.* What we are told is, in substance, what we believed when, during the Russian war, grand theories were afloat concerning the possible regeneration of the Ottoman Empire. Turkey, as a Power in Europe, is condemned to dissolution, and the only question is, how rapidly will her Christian population reclaim the dominion now held by a race of foreign conquerors who have never been naturalized during the four hundred years of their ascendancy upon the soil. The question is: will she merge under a great Christian government representative of her several provinces and populations, or will she part into detached states, which, unless united by a political confederacy, will become the prey of her natural enemies and unnatural protectors? That, in process of time, the Turk must abdicate, every circumstance of his history appears to prove. He is a soldier, altogether unfitted for citizenship. When he no longer wields the sword, he becomes inferior to the merchant, the agriculturist, or the priest of another religion. For a century, at least, he has been corrupting himself in the belief that to French-polish a Tartar is to render him a civilized being. The experiment has been tried, and failed. A bad Asiatic does not make a good European. To wear Paris boots, to eat pork, to wallow in wine-bibbing, to substitute one form of sensuality for another, to ape Western fashions and trample upon Mohammedanism without embracing Christianity, is not to progress but to recede, and this has been the policy of the Turks in Europe. Their immense territory lies under a weight of heterogeneous despotism; their Pachalics hang loosely together; their borders are in a chronic state of insurrection; and their Sultan, devoting one-sixth of the public revenue to his personal expenditure, personifies the atrophy and atony of his empire. The classes under his rule characterized by activity, energy, industry, scientific culture, courage, hope, and public spirit, are the Christian; the indolent, fatalistic, and improvident subjects of the Porte, are the religionists of Islam. If the late war was undertaken to promote the regeneration of Turkey, it was a gigantic failure. However, it was not undertaken with that view, nor was it altogether inoperative. It was a check to Russia; it saved the Danubian Principalities from immediate absorption; it modified an avowed supremacy in the Black Sea; and it gave a mortal though a lingering wound to the Ottoman Sultanate.

The Hatti Humayoun and the Magna Charta of Gulhané are among the Christian titles to possession, after the Turkish ascendancy has disappeared. They benefit without conciliating the majority; they are Christian charters and monuments of Turkish humiliation. Not that they are acted upon, except in the spirit in which they were con-

* *Revue des Deux Mondes*, March, 1858.

ced—that of yielding to pressure in order to avoid an explosion. The Turks know that the Christian population will never amicably accept their way; they feel that to be civilized is to be powerful, but, incapable of adopting the codes and customs of the West, they have abandoned the fiery traditions of the East, and are content to receive lessons from Europe in the science of governing Europeans. Diplomacy has opened its school at Constantinople, but it has only denationalized its pupils, except where it has instructed them in the ingenuities of oppression. "We have before us," writes M. Saint Marc Girardin, "a melancholy and curious example of the facility with which the Turks apply the maxims of European civilization in order to aggravate their tyranny over the rayahs. I allude to the reform of the Greek clergy recently undertaken by the Porte, which, unless Europe should interpose its protectorate, will result in doubling the oppression under which the Greek subjects of the empire habitually suffer."

M. Girardin does not ignore the abuses of the Greek ecclesiastical establishment, or deny that, in the Greek Church, confessors intrigue with penitents and prosper on the price of absolution. But the Greeks are corrupt partly because the Turks are rapacious, and if the priest be detected in venality, his sin may be generally traced to its source in the exactions of Constantinople. Now, the Turkish policy of 'reform' means a readiness to destroy the independent organization of the Greek Church. The Government announced its intentions last November "to harmonize the privileges and immunities granted to the Greeks by successive sultans with the progress and enlightenment of the age," in other words, to inflict an administrative uniformity of regulations upon the Church, and to abolish the temporal and judicial authority of the Patriarchate—a jurisdiction which now stands apart from the lawlessness of the Ottoman tribunals, and is of inestimable value to the rayahs. M. Girardin adds: "To discover in the European methods of procedure the means of creating new imposts, to satisfy Turkish cupidity while affecting to play the part of reformers, to pay for Turkish abuse and atrocity what in Europe is paid for justice and for the popular welfare and security, is the new Ottoman system, and it is in this disguise that it endeavours to dupe the Western nations. But the Western nations are not duped. They affect to be deceived, in order that they may enjoy the privilege of being indifferent." Thus, the West lends itself to this Eastern fraud, and while the cry is still "Regeneration!" Turkey becomes more essentially Turkish than ever.

Pictures from Cyprus are deep perspectives of ruin, yet Turkey has been ostentatiously regenerating in that island for twenty years. In Famagusta there is not an entire edifice standing, and M. Girardin quotes a traveller who points to Famagusta as typical of the Ottoman Empire. "Two hundred livid and sickly individuals—Mohammedans—crouched amidst this desolation like beasts of prey sleeping among the bones of their victims. That city is emblematic of the Ottoman Empire." From Constantinople far into the interior the country is little more than a cemetery; and in all directions the latest explorers find only decay and exhaustion. The richest provinces of Europe are half desert, and the population most favoured by nature is the poorest, under Moslem rule. The witnesses cited by M. Girardin speak of Turkey since the Peace of Paris, not of the old-fashioned system which Constantinople itself affects to condemn, and the work of decomposition will go on, we are firmly persuaded, so long as the Porte continues to be numbered among the powers of Europe.

THE POLICY FOR CHINA.

Great Britain, France, Russia, and America have united to break down the exclusive system of the Chinese Empire. What Russia may demand on her own part will probably be the liberty of ingress from the sea, hitherto refused her on the ground that she already enjoys a monopoly of intercourse along the inland frontier. The United States have long been surveying, practically and politically, among the Chinese waters in search of a naval station and commercial emporium, and they have a clear right to carry out their views. France may be trusted not to neglect her opportunity. The course open to Great Britain is not to obstruct the policy of friendly powers, but to secure her own position on the coast of China. To retain Canton appears to be a popular suggestion, but enormous difficulties

would have to be encountered. Firstly, if Great Britain proposed to appropriate the principal maritime city of the Chinese Empire, the other combined powers would consider themselves entitled to equivalent annexations, which would amount, virtually, to a partition of the Chinese sea-board, rendering necessary and inevitable the ultimate conquest of the entire realm. Secondly, a great town could not be permanently held without a corresponding mass of contiguous territory, unless the garrison maintained a perpetual state of war. Again, the principal objects of the Western combination against China would not be secured, and might be retarded by the retention of Canton. The river channels would not be opened, nor would the lives and properties of Europeans in the interior be guaranteed, and the first renewal of insult would entail a new territorial confiscation. But that Canton should not be restored to the Emperor until full satisfaction has been given for the aggression upon British commerce, and until the barbarous restrictions of the empire have been abolished, is so obvious, that it might be superfluous to press the point, did we not know that Lord Derby holds doubtful views on the Chinese question. So far as the affairs of China are concerned, every one must regret the absence of Lord Palmerston from the Administration. We trust, however, that he will not suffer a policy so triumphantly justified by the event to be warped by his successors in office. It has been discovered that Englishmen have suffered lingering deaths in Canton at the hands of the imperial authorities; and but for Admiral Seymour's squadron these atrocities would have remained among the bloody secrets of Commissioner Yeh and his myrmidons.

We must now put an end to the possibility of similar outrages, so far, at least, as Canton is concerned. We must lay that city open to free intercourse, and it would be no more than an equitable act of retribution if, before being handed over to a native governor, its walls—the screen of so many crimes against the laws of nature and of nations—were blown into ruins on every side. Next, we have to remove, either by artillery or by an ultimatum, the barricades that render useless to Europe the vast system of Chinese internal navigation. There is no reason why an Anglo-Chinese factory might not be safely established nine hundred miles from the sea. But, as a *point d'appui*, a centre, a rendezvous, we should occupy and retain the island of Chusan. Many years ago, memoirs upon the importance of Chusan were laid before the British Government by British officers of high rank and long Eastern experience, but they were neglected in favour of Hong-Kong, since demonstrated to be inconvenient, insufficient, and less commanding as a strategic position than is necessary to 'keep the coast civil.' We have sent a powerful and costly expedition to China, and the industrial and commercial public has a right to anticipate some practical result from so ostentatious a demonstration.

FRANCE AND PIEDMONT.

The English press seems recently to have been so occupied with home affairs that it has been particularly chary of encouragement to a little State which, nevertheless, deserves more respectful attention. Piedmont is now in the midst of a struggle with French influence, similar to that which England has just terminated *tant bien que mal*. Count Cavour, whose Bonapartist tendencies, or rather we should say, whose exaggerated estimate of the present Emperor of the French have been more than once pointed out, seems to have been acted on precisely as was Lord Palmerston. He was asked to expel refugees—he refused, but introduced a law which, if passed, would be far more detrimental to the reputation of Piedmont than any temporary concession to the exigencies of a powerful State.

The whole case is admirably stated in the report presented to the Piedmontese Chambers in the name of the Commission appointed to examine the project of law. M. Lorenzo Valerio, who conducts the policy of the *Diritto*, one of the ablest and most consistent of Italian journals, was charged with the duty of drawing up that report. He has done so with a courage and moderation worthy of all praise; and shows that the proposed law would introduce perturbation into the whole of the penal legislation as well as into the municipal institutions of the country.

The law proposed by Count Cavour, we believe with the best intentions, in a moment of exaggerated fear for the safety of Piedmont, was one such as no re-

actionary minister would have dared to think of. Not only did it provide against conspiracies to kill or overturn a foreign power in a manner, as the reporter very appositely remarks, unknown to the other Italian States, to Austria, and especially to France, but it proposed utterly to falsify the institution of the jury. As is well known, all ordinary offences are tried in Piedmont by magistrates, most of whom, by the way, were appointed before 1848; and even all press offences that partake of the character of libel. Mr. Trulove and Messrs. Pyat and his co-signers would not have the benefit of a jury in Piedmont. The opinion of twelve honest citizens chosen by lot is only asked when a writer is accused of crimes which are so vague that in reality they ought never to be mentioned in a code; as, for example, "exciting the hatred of one class of citizens against another," "spreading subversive doctrines," and so forth; that is to say, doing what one half of the press of a free country is every day accusing the other half of doing. These crimes are of French invention. We are sorry to see them ever mentioned in Piedmont. Still more do we regret that Count Cavour, in obedience to the threats of France, not endorsed by any real intention of coercion, has thought fit to endeavour to obtain more convictions than are already obtained by having such offences submitted to the judgment of magistrates, nearly every one of whom regards the principles on which the present Constitution of Piedmont is based as 'subversive.'

We hear that a very strong opposition exists in the Parliament of Turin against this law. The Commissaries appointed by the bureaux, who may be supposed to represent the real sentiments of the Chamber, voted seven to two against it. Still, its rejection appears by no means certain. Count Cavour, though he has sometimes wavered, is now said to be resolved to use all possible means to obtain a majority, even to threaten resignation in case of failure. Perhaps he acts under stern command. At any rate, we trust the Liberals and all patriotic members will do their duty. Count Cavour has been a valuable Minister, and his career is not yet over, but a short time on the Opposition benches might be of service even to him. He is too identified with the doctrines of progress to refuse his assistance to any liberal measures proposed by a Ministry of which he was not a member. Perhaps, indeed, whatever he may say, he would not be sorry to escape from the necessity of imposing this unlucky law upon the country. He must feel that it is in every respect a step backward.

We must not forget to do credit to the attitude which the Right seems to have taken on this occasion. Its members would, no doubt, willingly return to another régime; but if essentially anti-Liberal they are also essentially patriotic. The idea of legislating under the dictation of France has roused their national pride. As loyal subjects, too, they are willing to come to the assistance of the King, who is known to be highly indignant, as the representative of a line of eight hundred years' duration, at the haughty demands of a parvenu. In every respect, what is taking place in Piedmont should be considered as highly important; and, to use a Green Dragon expression, "the eyes of all Europe are turned towards the Sardinian Parliament."

THE ISLAND OF PERIM.

LORD PALMERSTON has been fairly attacked on two grounds, his attempt to degrade the Liberal party into a mere personal following, and the levity of his conduct towards the independent members of the House of Commons. But he is entitled, on some points, to the highest praise that can be bestowed upon a statesman. Wherever any question of British power and British policy in distant quarters of the globe has arisen, he has invariably maintained the interest and the honour of the country. No minister could have acted better than Lord Palmerston in the Chinese dispute. He was thoroughly honest, cautious, and energetic from first to last in that affair, once termed 'unfortunate,' but a very happy circumstance, as it seems to us, since it exposed the mysteries of Canton, where four of our own countrymen have been among the human sacrifices—more ghastly than those of Western Africa—within the last few years. Another important matter has passed out of his hands into those of Lord Malmesbury, and we trust that no national loss may be sustained through the transfer. We refer to the occupation and projected fortification by the British Government of the island of Perim. As a question of policy, the retention of

the island is essential to command the deep water channel of the Red Sea, to complete the chain of naval ports between this country and India, to secure the safety of Aden, and to anticipate the possibility of M. de Lesseps's mighty ditch being excavated in future years between the east and west. Perim is held by the British Government under a title not hitherto questioned by the Ottoman Porte, and it is so valuable that French politicians are doing their utmost to make it the basis of a European question. It converts the great inlet from the ocean, they argue, into a sort of Dardanelles, liable to be closed at the good pleasure of England, and we are not inclined to deny that the island of Perim is a vital point in our line of communication with India and the China ports. The opposition comes from Paris, not from Constantinople, although French semi-official journalists endeavour to excite Turkish alarms and Russian jealousies by pleading the integrity of the Ottoman Empire. Public opinion, we are convinced, will support any minister who holds firmly to this important station, notwithstanding the demand of the *Patrie* that the occupation of Perim should be treated as among the most serious of existing political questions.

QUARTERLIES ON THE CURRENCY.

The readers of Quarterly literature have enjoyed an ample opportunity of looking on both sides of the Currency question. Four of the Reviews have had papers on the subject, all deserving of careful perusal, and all affording matter for mature reflection.

The *Edinburgh** is bullionist to the backbone. It defends the Act of 1844 in every particular, and advocates its being pushed to its legitimate developments. Its text is Lord Overstone, and to that text it most scrupulously adheres. There is very little that is new in the paper; most of the subjects that are passed under review have already been discussed in our own columns. The most difficult part of the question it leaves scarcely touched—we mean the relaxing power in cases of difficulty, such as 1847 and 1857. In both instances the interference of the Executive was absolutely necessary, and was subsequently deliberately approved and confirmed by the Legislature. The Lords' Committee reported in favour of a discretionary relaxing power, to be used only during the existence of a favourable exchange; the Commons were entirely opposed to this opinion. The reviewer would have gratified its readers immensely had he thrown any light on this part of the subject, but, like commentators in general, he leaves in darkness the points that especially require light. From the connexion that subsisted between the late Chancellor of the Exchequer and this Review, it might have been supposed that some glimmering of his views and notions would appear in its pages. But he must be a sagacious reader indeed who is able to penetrate the deep darkness that veils all reference to the future.

The writer is in favour of some further legislation in the matter of joint-stock banking—but beyond the suggestion that these establishments should publish a weekly statement of deposits, securities, and reserves, he gives no hint of what we might have expected from Lord Palmerston's government. He attributes a large share in the late disaster to over-banking, and would have Parliament take steps (but he does not suggest any) to correct it; yet, in extolling the Act of 1844, a few pages on, he claims as a merit that it has secured the unquestioned stability of the whole of the metropolitan banks.

Following the lead of Sir Cornwall Lewis, he points out the dangers of the deposit system, how it leads to insufficient reserves, and to investments by the banks in inferior securities. He advocates legislative interference on this point; but how Government can prevent a bank borrowing money of the public on such terms as the public are willing to lend, it is difficult to understand. It would be far more prudent to leave this matter to be acted upon by public opinion; to expose the dangers of the system as it has hitherto existed, and then to trust to the mutual action and reaction of bankers and their clients.

In point of style, the *Edinburgh* is dry, hard, and often inelegant. What is still worse, in the discussion of an abstract and difficult question like the Currency, it is frequently obscure. All this is the very reverse of the compositions of the great leader of this school, Lord Overstone, who

never fails to make himself clearly understood. On the important question of limited liability to banking companies we are not favoured with any information or opinion.

The style of the writer in the *Westminster* is elegant and polished, and his arguments, even when far-fetched, are clear and intelligible. His opposition to our Banking Act is, if possible, more intense than the admiration of the *Edinburgh* Reviewer; and he has taken infinite pains to demolish what he calls 'the currency principle.' He maintains that Government has nothing to do with money and banking beyond administering justice, and he particularly refers to the punishment of those who fail to complete their contracts—whether in the form of bills of exchange, cheques, bank-notes, or otherwise. Of course the Government that is to administer justice in banking matters must do so according to law, and, further, the Legislature must frame laws for this object; it must of necessity create certain regulations by which banking institutions must be governed, and then the State must enforce such laws as the wisdom of Parliament may devise. And this is precisely what has been done. It is the prerogative of the State to issue money, whether it be in coin or paper; and, abstractedly, Sir Robert Peel was in favour of the Government making this a department of its own; but he found the difficulties too great—he therefore adopted (we think most wisely) the machinery already in existence, and intended so to frame his Act as to make the Bank of England ultimately the sole bank of issue. To carry out this idea he took means to ensure the convertibility of the bank-note; he adopted the only method that has yet been discovered for the attainment of that object; and made the issues to vary precisely as the precious metals vary. And in this he has perfectly succeeded; notwithstanding the Irish famine, the Russian, Persian, Chinese, and Indian wars—notwithstanding the suspension of cash payments in the United States, and the consequent failures of remittances from that quarter—the convertibility of the bank-note was so amply secured, that no one, in the very darkest days of fear and distrust, doubted it even for one moment.

In exchange for this practical and intelligible rule, the *Westminster* tells us that if the State did not interfere, 'the proportion of coin to paper would depend upon the average conscientiousness of the people.' The writer is so evidently in earnest that it cannot for an instant be supposed that he is joking; but his readers must smile when they think of the floods of paper with which the 'conscientiousness' of Sir John Paul, Sadleir, and Dr. Stephens would have watered the fields of commerce. If this 'average conscientiousness' drives away all our precious metals (the only world-wide currency), it is not only not an evil, 'it is a good;' and more than this, so consistent is the writer in his opposition to established principles, that he asserts this expansion of paper should go on in times of impoverishment or commercial difficulty; that, in fact, 'it is highly salutary.' Having issued more promises than they can fulfil, the debtors are to go on promising until, in the elegant and precise language of Mr. Micawber, 'something turns up.'

True it is that these self-regulating processes will act imperfectly; the writer tells us stupid people will suffer; but Government, we are told, is going beyond its province if it makes regulations for the protection of the ignorant and confiding.

However, those who are not stupid are to have the privilege of inspecting the books of a banking company before they deposit their money. We repeat, we believe the writer to be serious; but can we for one moment imagine a man with 1000*l.* to spare, examining the accounts of the London and Westminster Bank, with its six branches, with its millions of deposits, and its diverse investments, before he decides to place his money there? Do we not all know that it would take a practised accountant weeks and weeks to arrive at a definite conclusion upon an affair of such magnitude and importance?

The truth is, that the *Westminster* Reviewer is a most able writer, well read in the literature of the currency, but supremely unpractical. A confirmation of this remark is scarcely required after what we have already quoted; but there is another imaginary statement too good to be omitted:—

A trader applying to his banker in times of great commercial difficulty, will often be met by this reply:—"I cannot make you any direct advances, having already loaned as much as I can spare; but knowing you to be a safe man, I will lend you my name. There is my acceptance for the sum you require; they will discount it for you in London."

It is not necessary to assure our readers that such bills would find no favour in Lombard-street, and that the very fact of their existence being known would be sufficient to cause a run on the bankers that issued them. The long-dated acceptances of Strahan, Paul, and Co. were refused discount some time before that house stopped payment; the experienced money-dealer shook his head when he saw them; he needed no other warning that the end of that house was approaching. When bankers take to 'lending their name,' the depositor ceases to lend them his money.

We must not omit to add that the same number contains an excellent article on "the Crisis and its Causes," in which, strangely enough, the miserable effects of banking uncontrolled by law, as exhibited in the United States, are ably exposed. The leading American statesmen desire some far more stringent guarantee for bank issues than the 'average conscientiousness' of a few sharp down-easters of questionable morality, who, we are told, are presidents, directors, tellers, and cashiers of the monetary establishments in the one only country where there are no 'State tamperings with money and banks.'

A QUOTATION.

(Dedicated to Mr. Bodkin.)

AND blessed be the hand that dares to wield
The regal steel that shall redeem
A nation's suffering with a tyrant's blood.

BENJAMIN DISRAELI THE YOUNGER.

THE RECENT ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITIONS.—A deputation from the Royal Institution of British Architects waited on Monday upon Lord John Manners and General Peel, at the office of the Board of Works, Whitehall-place, in order to urge upon them a memorial which had been adopted with reference to the late competition for model barracks and public offices. The chief complaint is that the Treasury has thrown over the principle of competition, and has determined to revert to the old plan of entrusting the work to an official architect. Lord John Manners said the Government had little power to undertake great works of art; and General Peel said that, with respect to the trifling sum which was about to be spent at Nottingham, he saw no reason why the prizemen, if they could adapt their plans to the circumstances of the case, should not superintend its outlay, if they thought fit to undertake so small an affair.—This proposal was apparently considered to be satisfactory.

THE PROSPECTS OF REFORM.—The report of the deputation recently appointed by the Reformers' Union of Birmingham to confer with the leading Reformers of the House of Commons has been published. It is here stated:—"In conformity with your resolution of the 6th of March, which appointed a deputation to proceed to London for the purpose of promoting the introduction of a Reform Bill into the House of Commons during the present session, and also to confer with our own and other liberal members on the practicability of a demonstration in Birmingham, we have to report that the result of our communications with Messrs. Scholefield, Bright, Beale, F. Crossley, Caird, and others, forbids us having any hope of the introduction of a general measure of Reform this year." This opinion is based on three facts—the disjointed state of the Liberal party in the House; the want of a leader among the advanced section of members; and the circumstance that a Reform Bill must be the work of the Government of the day, which is not to be expected of the Derby Cabinet this session, if at all. Mr. Bright is alluded to as 'the coming man' among the Liberals; and it is added:—"Your deputation have found that there exists in the House of Commons generally, and more especially among the more advanced Liberals, the strongest desire to prevent the return of Palmerston to power."—The Mayor of Salford convened a large meeting on the subject, which took place on Wednesday evening in the Town Hall under his presidency. Resolutions in favour of Reform were unanimously passed, and a petition to Parliament was adopted.

FIRES.—The South-Western Railway passenger-station at Salisbury was totally destroyed by fire last Saturday; and the goods-station nearly shared the same fate. No great amount of property was lost.—The large warehouse belonging to the East Lancashire Railway Company at Brookbottom, about three miles from Bury, was burnt down on the same day.—A serious fire burst out on Sunday morning in King-street, Deptford. One house was destroyed, and two others were injured; but no lives were lost.—The frightful calamity in Bloomsbury is related in another column.—A very extensive and alarming fire took place at Manchester on Monday morning, when a large cotton-spinning and doubling-mill in Minshall-street was consumed. A large portion of the front wall fell outwards, and descended on a gasometer. An explosion ensued, and it was some hours before the conflagration could be reduced.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

M. EMILE MONTÉGUT, whose able contributions to the *Revue des Deux Mondes* we have often had occasion to notice, has just republished from that journal one of its most striking papers, under the title of *Du Génie Français*. On its first appearance in the pages of the *Revue* a few months since, the article justly excited a good deal of attention, and many will be glad to possess it in a more permanent form. It is a thoroughly philosophical and complete analysis of a most difficult subject—the peculiar temper, the characteristic genius of the French people. M. MONTÉGUT does not disguise from himself the perplexing nature of the problem he undertakes to solve. After stating that there is no country more easily judged of in appearance, more difficult to judge of in reality, and that the various judgments pronounced upon it may be ranged under two main divisions—that is, monarchical and revolutionary—he adds:—

The truth is that France is a country of contradictions, being at once a daring innovator and an obstinate conservative, at once revolutionary and traditional, utopian and formalist. There is no country in which things perish more quickly, none in which the remembrance of them survives so long. The French are a people revolutionary and traditional: revolutionary, because the changes they have experienced are more numerous than those of any other people; traditional, because under all these changes the same spirit lives and breathes.

These revolutions and transformations have a double character, which renders them altogether enigmatical; they manifest themselves in a form so rash and impetuous as to surprise the judgment and disconcert the reason, and at the same time they have an appearance of simplicity and heartiness so singular, that, the first moment of surprise being over, you are astonished at your not having foreseen them, and at having thought that they could possibly happen otherwise. Another fact, not less striking, is the unenviable facility with which France changes her conditions of existence and of thought; without effort, with no strain or compulsion, with no gradual accumulation of forces, no previous calculation of the difficulties of the work to be accomplished, or of the strength of the resistance to be encountered. As a skilful artist, who runs over on his instrument with the same indifferent enthusiasm the whole gamut of human feelings, the French genius passes without transition from one order of ideas to another with an ease that, while it confounds the observer and excites his admiration, at the same time fills him with alarm if not with disgust. He admires the plastic intelligence of the people among whom such metamorphoses are possible; he trembles for its conscience; he is indignant at its facile forgetfulness and apparent ingratitude. Amongst other peoples political and moral revolutions are the work of time. We see them dawn, develop themselves slowly, ingraft themselves on the past, or gradually sweep its place; we seize the point of transition from one fact or one idea to another fact or another idea. In France nothing of the kind takes place. We pass from Bonnet to Voltaire without preparation and without any marked transition; chivalric, bourgeois, monarchical, Catholic, revolutionary, atheistic, industrial by turns, France wears each of these costumes with so much ease, that you might imagine she had never worn any other, and plays each of these parts with such perfect sincerity, that you are tempted to believe the last is the only one which really belongs to her. This may be called the spirit of superior scepticism, indifferent to all things because it comprehends all equally; or of transcendent epicureanism, loving change for the sake of pleasure, and variety from the relish of contrasts; or, again, it may be called an artistic spirit, which regards things as good and moral, according to the position they occupy and the emotions they excite. It is nothing of the kind, however; and this French genius, if fitted to disconcert both its friends and its enemies, is raised far above such interpretations.

The explanation of these apparent contradictions offered by M. MONTÉGUT is that the French have, as a nation, a passionate love of abstractions, and a practical tendency to realize without let or hindrance their successive ideals. This thesis is admirably worked out in a brief but suggestive sketch of the history and literature of the nation. The writer shows that, despite all appearances to the contrary, progress is the law of its political life; the aim of each successive revolution, however imperfectly realized, being a nobler and broader one than the last. The treatise is republished in an expanded form, mainly for the purpose of inspiring with hope and confidence those earnest and patriotic minds which, on a superficial view of its present state, may be tempted to despair of their country. In this point of view the publication of such a thoughtful and noble-spirited dissertation is most seasonable just now. It is appropriately dedicated "To THOMAS CARLYLE, as a token of admiration for his great talent, and profound esteem for his character."

The edition of BACON by SPEDDING, ELLIS, and HEATH may truly be considered as a national work, and worthy of the illustrious writer whose speculations are still the source to which thinking minds of all nations repair. The fourth volume of this magnificent edition has just appeared. It contains new translations of the *Novum Organum* and the *De Augmentis*. Although no one to whom Latin is even tolerably familiar will be satisfied with a translation of these works, the original being at hand, so thoroughly had BACON impressed his own genius for felicitous expression on that language, yet to the mass of readers a translation was on many accounts desirable, and all former translations have been both inaccurate and inelegant. The new translations which have been executed by and under the superintendence of Mr. SPEDDING, do not profess to be literally accurate, but rather as translations to be read by themselves, everywhere carefully reproducing the meaning, but sometimes varying the expression, when the meaning could thus be more clearly rendered. The result is a very Baconian style, and perhaps a more readable translation; yet we have many doubts as to the propriety of altering—and in some cases even greatly improving—the language of an author so illustrious. Fidelity seems to us the first virtue in a translation. We have gone through this volume, seduced by the charm of great thoughts and noble

expressions, and should not, unless by actual comparison, have detected any variation from BACON's own words, so entirely has the manner as well as the spirit of the original been reproduced; but on reaching down the Latin, and comparing several passages, we perceive that Mr. SPEDDING has allowed himself latitude in expression while adhering closely to the sense. The fifth volume, which is shortly to appear, will complete the Philosophical Works—and a conspicuous place should be found for them in every student's bookcase.

After reading the sixth number of the *Virginians*, we are much mistaken if this sequel to *Esmond* be not the most carefully studied and the most elaborately wrought of all the creations of our great Humorist. The taste of the vulgar novel-reader, vitiated by the conventional garbage of the Circulating Library, is no doubt ill adapted to enjoy the exquisite felicities of an art so consummate in its manifestation, so perfect in its mastery of the secrets of simplicity—finished simplicity—that it drives the herd of ready mimics to despair, or lures them to destruction—

ut sibi quis
Speret idem; eudet multum, frustra que laboret
Ausus idem, tantum series juncturaque pollet.

What BYRON said of 'easy reading' is true of every form of art; and when we say of a page of THACKERAY that its peculiar charm is like the charm of good company—refined without affectation, simple without sacrifice of superiority, familiar without loss of dignity, easy itself, and putting everybody else at ease—we must not forget how many natural and how many acquired advantages are summed up in so perfect a result.

ESSAYS AND REMAINS OF ALFRED VAUGHAN.

Essays and Remains of the Rev. R. Alfred Vaughan. Edited, with a Memoir, by the Rev. Robert Vaughan, D.D. 2 vols. J. W. Parker and Son.

THESE Essays and fragments are not only interesting as personal memorials, but valuable as contributions to literature. Alfred Vaughan was among the most remarkable of the younger writers of his day, and his principal work, *Hours with the Mystics*, belongs to a class of books unhappily too rare, uniting philosophic criticism with erudite research, and lighting up the long dim aisles of mysticism into which so few students have successfully penetrated. Dr. Vaughan, in editing these minor writings and prefacing them by a Memoir, has performed a labour of love, and has collected, with a pride in which all can sympathize, unsolicited testimonies to the worth and genius of his son. Born in 1823, Alfred Vaughan never enjoyed a robust constitution; but in early life his mind bore the fruit of a brilliant promise, and although addicted to the more fanciful forms of composition, and inclined to slight the study of metaphysics, logic, and psychology, he became gradually fixed in his devotion to ecclesiastical history. When twenty-two years of age, he wrote in the *British Quarterly Review* a treatise which was particularly noticed, on the life and works of Origen. To this Sir James Stephen objected, on the ground that the subject was ill-chosen and the material imperfect; but he described the essay as in all respects masterly, and invited young Vaughan to undertake the task of revivifying "the duldest book ever written," *Cæsar's Lives of the Fathers of the Fourth Century*. Talfourd said, "It is nobly done." From what Dr. Vaughan quotes, it is evident that his son's religious opinions passed shortly afterwards under a partial eclipse; but nothing of this remained when, during his five years' residence at Birmingham, he commenced and nearly completed his really distinguished book, *Hours with the Mystics*, based upon an aggregate of uncommon lore, and concentrating in itself the many-coloured rays from old German, Spanish, Dutch, Italian, French, and Latin authorities. Without tracing beyond this point the general outlines of his career as a Christian minister and as a student, we may describe Dr. Vaughan's Memoir as a most just and touching tribute to the memory of a young man who deserved all that has been written to his praise, even the noble epitaph here inscribed upon his grave by his father's hand.

The Essays and Remains are on varied subjects, but one class of research predominates. Origen, Schleiermacher, Savonarola, the Religious Developments of Greece, and Kingsley's *Hyperborea*, suggest the tendencies of the critic, who was sometimes compelled, as Sir James Stephen said, to build upon vacuity, and to compensate himself for the scarcity of materials by creating vast imaginary restorations, in the centre of which stood the figures of his prophets, saints, and sages. Thus, the review of Origen's life and works opens upon an epicurean picture of ancient Alexandria, rich and bright, with a reflexion of Pharaonic splendour. "This beautiful city was the Venus that arose out of all that idle foam of conquest." The style of the younger Vaughan was originally exuberant, although its exuberance arose, not from the poverty, but from the superfluity of his ideas. Illustrations and analogies thronged upon him as he wrote, and he endeavoured to marshal them in processional pomp, emblazoning Eastern history in Eastern purple. This habit was speedily abandoned; the diction of the essay on Schleiermacher is sober in comparison with that devoted to Origen, and in the pungent commentary upon Mackay's *Progress of the Intellect* the rhetorical effort entirely disappears. If we were suggesting to young critics a model, we would point to this masterly piece of writing, which thoroughly searches a voluminous and formidable book. Nothing could be more practical than the remarks on the plenitude of Mr. Mackay's references, deposited like the sediment of unblended studies at the bottom of every page, tipping every sentence with learned numerals, revolving like the spears of Asiatic cavalry round every hollow platitude, and pretending to repel doubts while they actually show the way to refutation. These clouds of erudite dust will rise for any one who chooses to shake the shelves in a library; but it is one thing to cite and another to criticise. The mind of Alfred Vaughan was too independent and luminous to be daunted by voices chattering from scholastic folios, or shadows thrown from mountains of brown calfskin and Russian leather; a few clear enunciations silenced the Babel, and at the prick of a pen the vast pile of historical nomenclature collapsed. The truth is, that what this admirable young writer attempted

he did thoroughly; his own work on the Mystics proves that he never based an assertion upon an authority at second hand; he had read the works he quoted; if he appropriated a passage, it was not without examining its context; and he aimed at something more enduring than an exhibition of pages and chapters to astonish the illiterate. Thus all his writings bear the impress of original thought and solid learning, as well as of a refined, tasteful, sensitive mind, capable of the warmest sympathy, but well-poised, firm, and far-sighted. These two volumes, gracefully prepared for the press by Dr. Vaughan, will occupy a niche in our library of select criticism.

ANASTASIA.

Anastasia.

Longman and Co.

'Soul conflicts' and 'soul agonies' have formed the subject of so many poems during the last few years that the manifestation has grown into a disease, infecting not only our poetical literature, but in some measure the whole current of contemporary thought. A morbid melancholy, an ultra self-consciousness, an unhealthy love of spiritual excitement, is spreading over the age, and finding expression, now in an overwrought poem, and now in a hankering after mesmerism and table-turning. The development is bad in itself, and has become tiresome by mere repetition. Yet this is the ground taken by the author of *Anastasia*; and the result is a post octavo volume of 328 pages, with thirty lines in each page, in which there is no story, but, instead, a painfully elaborate analysis of certain spiritual conditions. What may be called the machinery of the poem, however, is original, and subtly conceived; and the writing is of no common order. Alexis, the hero, has been passionately attached to Isaura, whom perhaps we must call the heroine; but Isaura is dead before the commencement of the poem. The first division of the work represents Alexis on the grave of Isaura by night, lamenting, raving, and blaspheming; flinging reproaches and defiance at Heaven, and expecting to be withered by some avenging lightning. The next division introduces Isaura in Heaven, wondering at her own happiness; and so the poem proceeds, alternately divided between the soliloquies of Alexis on earth, and of Isaura in her state of beatification. The celestial name of Isaura is Anastasia—a word signifying Uprising, and therefore a type of the Resurrection; and hence the title of the poem. For a time, Alexis remains in a doubting state of mind, unreconciled to his fate, moody, cynical, and self-analyzing—a combination of Hamlet and Timon. But Isaura is always stooping over him from the height and glory of her bliss, influencing his mind in a way not recognized by himself, and gradually bringing him to a reliance on the Christian faith: when, being perfected for death, he expires.

It is this mystical scheme which gives originality to the conception of the poem; but, even had there been no such scheme, the writing is so fine that the poem would have commanded attention in spite of the objections which may fairly be urged against its general tendency. The writer is a person of unquestionable genius—a real poet, though not a healthy one—a subtle thinker, an acute and delicate perceiver, a master of passion and emotion, one who can strike instantaneous pictures on his page out of the heat and energy of his words. His power makes itself felt at the very commencement, and at once establishes a painful fascination over the reader. It is not agreeable reading; for the mind is rent with conflicting emotions, and is thrown into the same state of diseased excitement as that under which the author appears to have written. But, however much you may question the poet's principles of art or principles of ethics—however much you may disagree with particular passages, or with the prevailing complexion of the work—you can no more deny the power than you can dispute the force of a flood which carries you away. The passionate wrestlings of the soul with a grief to which it will not submit—the feverish staggering of the mind between defiance and supplication—the after-deadening of the heart into a calm which is not the repose of resignation, but the forced indifference of cynicism—the sudden spurts of the old fire, which burst out every now and then from the dead ashes—the listless, wayward moods of the intellect, making ghastly dalliance with human hopes and griefs, desires and passions—the unnaturally sharpened condition of the brain, perpetually gnawing into itself with endless doubts and questionings—the petulant hatred and contempt of the world—the gradual struggling into belief and reliance—and over all this tumbling chaos the glories of the beatific home of Isaura,—these things are drawn forth with the strength and subtlety of genius. But the genius is as wayward as the moods it portrays. It is irregular—the poetry sometimes stagnating into dull reaches of prosaic discussion upon points of faith, and at other times being overwrought and burdened with imagery. The writer lacks the power of selection, of self-denial; and thinks it necessary to say every conceivable thing on every available subject. The result is obscurity, and a sense of fatigue to the reader. The metaphors are clogged and massed by their own excess; you might dig them out like plums from a pudding. Indeed, the writing not unfrequently reminds us of Mrs. Browning; it possesses both her power and her weakness. Like her, the author of *Anastasia* has poetry, passion, rapturous enthusiasm, and keen, satirical perception of human character; like her, he wants repose and simplicity. His blank verse for the most part is weighty and organlike, but is deformed by many clumsy and limping passages, and is sometimes utterly destroyed by the use of such small words as 'to' and 'of' at the ends of lines—a strange aberration in one who can modulate so finely as this:—

A lime-kiln on the hill—
A burnt-out lime-kiln on the lonely hill,—
A lonely lime-kiln—such becomes a temple
For such hypethral worshippers as me, &c.

The division headed 'Alexis in a Church' is strikingly dramatic, the whole action, and many of the characters, being admirably intimated in the words of the one speaker, as he sits, sharply observing all about him, yet swayed and rocked by the intensity of his own emotions.

We have done justice to the singular power of this book; but we must again express our dissent from its spirit. It is unhealthy, feverish, hectic, hysterical. When are we to see the last of these indecent prying into the hidden spasms and secret agonies of our nature? When will the modern poet

consent to be something else than a metaphysical anatomist, groping about in his horrible dissecting shop of the living passions, laying bare the quivering nerves and fibres of the heart and soul, and dividing them with his cruel scalpel? We know that *Anastasia* is intended as a religious exertion; but, while fully persuaded of the sincerity of the author, we deny that the end is effected. Heaven itself, from the writer's point of view, is as much a place of un repose and painfully keen emotion as the earth itself; and nowhere do we find the placidity which we look for in connexion with an exalted form of belief. We submit, therefore, that *Anastasia* is a mistake; but it is the mistake of genius.

THE EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE.

The Education of the People. By James Augustus St. John. Chapman and Hall.

THE whole of the great range of questions debated of recent years in connexion with the national education, are treated in this volume by Mr. St. John. The work is at once historical, controversial, and didactic. It lays the subject open from various points of view, and under all its aspects; and, with a view to popularize the argument, Mr. St. John gathers from a multiplicity of sources anecdotes and illustrations which throw a coloured light upon the discussion. His starting-point is the general object of popular education, and this question is answered in detail: "Do we merely desire to convert the people into useful instruments of industry, or, elevating our views to the level of morals, politics, and religion, to render them better their social relations of parents, husbands, wives, children, better citizens and better Christians?" It may at once be inferred to which of these alternatives the writer inclines. Marcelling his preliminaries, Mr. St. John next investigates the extent and forms of ignorance in this country; its colonies and dependencies; and this part of the essay contains a curious panoramic view of the British Empire and the populations included under the action of its laws—Fire worshippers, Pacific Islanders, Australian aborigines, perpetrators of human sacrifices—all British subjects, but not surpassing in barbarity of mind and life many who inhabit the precincts of our own capital. The social abominations that spring from ignorance occupy a large section of the picture, and, seen in this light, English civilization is scarcely a contrast to that of India, or the savage solitudes beyond the antipodal Plains of Promise. We have here, for example, a summary of the superstitions still rampant among us; and it shows, from the history of recent years, that our towns and provinces contain believers in fairy rings, spectral coffins, the powers of witchcraft, the virtue of cauls and children's skulls, the water ordeal, the diabolical nature of bats and spiders, and the significance of visions during sleep. "Dryden," says Mr. St. John, "used to eat raw pork for supper, in order to feast his imagination on hideous dreams."

To indicate precisely the plan and scope of Mr. St. John's volume would be difficult without quoting his index, since a topic of this character has seldom before been so variously treated; but an outline may be sketched, so as to illustrate his general purpose. From the object of Education, as we have seen, he passes to the domains of existing ignorance, including the popular superstitions of the day. The subject is then traced historically, and in its relations to political, social, and religious institutions, as developed among us from the earliest times to our own. In proceeding to discuss the educational influence of literature, Mr. St. John recommends the study of the poets, the dramatists, and the romancers, as well as of more serious works, upon the principle that while the richer classes cultivate their tastes, it is improper and irrational to insist that servants and cottagers shall absorb themselves in their theology. He advocates the teaching of the physical sciences, of geography, including ethnology, of elementary natural history, and particularly the history of extinct religions. One chapter is devoted to the influence of religion on education, and another to 'the affections and domestic virtues'; upon the importance also of feminine culture, and of distributing healthy literature among the people, separate portions of the work are based. Mr. St. John follows with an inquiry into the policy of a national educational date:—

When any great moral good is to be effected, an enlightened nation will not be deterred by considerations of expense from putting forth whatever power it possesses. Yet it is fortunate when economy and morality are found to go hand in hand. The repression and punishment of crime, at present, absorb in this country more than the revenues of a small kingdom, falling very little short of four millions sterling.

A large portion of this enormous expenditure is to be set down to the account of our ignorance as a community. Our state physicians have hitherto proved themselves unequal either to cure or prevent the disease. We pay therefore four millions sterling as a tribute to the incapacity of our rulers; and it begins at length to be suspected that, by expending less than a moiety of that sum in disciplining and instructing the people, we may not only save the remainder, together with much that is now expended in poor rates, but place the industrious classes in a condition to provide amply for themselves in future.

It is not therefore a mere question of economy. We must likewise take into account the pain, the sorrow, the suffering, the shame, the infamy, which thousands among the humbler classes would be spared. This view of the matter must be pressed upon Parliament, which in the end will be convinced that a general rate, for the purpose of bringing education home to every child's door, will be at once salutary and economical.

We will allow Mr. St. John to state another view which he puts forward in favour of a Foundling Hospital system, as a check upon infanticide:—

To facilitate this, and prevent their desertion and death, there should be attached to all these schools an establishment for the reception of infants, to whomsoever they might belong. As in other countries, they might be introduced through a turning box, with the utmost secrecy, at night, a bell being touched to give notice of the approach of an inmate. Once in, the child should belong to the colonies, and be educated accordingly. Indeed the only way to render Foundling Hospitals useful is to convert them into seminaries of emigration; and I feel convinced that, if this were done, the colonies would in a short time consent to bear all the expense, in consideration of the valuable additions which might thus be made to their industrial population. The boys should be brought up to trades, and the girls properly instructed for performing the duties of domestic servants. At the age of fourteen, both might be forwarded to their place of destination, and become a blessing to their new country and to themselves. This plan, I repeat, if properly realized, would put an end to infanticide, and remove from our civilization one of its worst stains, since no one

could have the slightest temptation to destroy a child of which the State would willingly become the fostering parent.

We will quote the last passage in the volume, illustrative of its spirit and design:—

It is well to be acquainted with the processes of industry, with manufactures, with commerce, with navigation; it is well not to be ignorant of the steam engine, the electric telegraph, or the printing-press; but it is abdicating altogether the character of an Englishman, not to be familiar with that which forms the peculiar pride of our race—political liberty, and the use of those arms by which our forefathers acquired and defended it. Among the Athenians every citizen was taught to read and to swim; and every Englishman should be taught the value of his freedom, and the use of arms, by which alone it can be defended against the world.

There is another thing of still higher import, which should be every man's study, whether slave or free. I mean Religion, or the sum of those duties which we owe to our Creator. Without this there is no dignity, or freedom, or greatness of spirit. The man who is destitute of religion has forfeited the highest distinction of his nature, and degraded himself to the level of the inferior animals, from which we are chiefly distinguished by our knowledge of the God that made us. A Roman poet observes that man is the only creature formed with a countenance looking towards the skies, to intimate whence he came, and whither he must ultimately go. All other creatures have their faces turned towards the earth, which is to bound their aspirations and their hopes, while, in the language of the spirits in Milton,

"By our own proper motion we ascend;
Descent and fall, to us is adverse."

Every sentiment which will not harmonize with this conviction, should be expelled like poison from the soul. Without it, we cannot bear the ills of life in a calm and dignified manner; but with it, there is nothing which the mind finds it difficult to submit. Here we have the sheet-anchor of the English people, their Palladium, their sacred fire, which converts the poorest hearth of the poorest hovel into a great altar, on which God does not disdain to hold converse with man. We must introduce this belief into every form of education, not in a sectarian spirit, but in a great catholic sense, calculated to disperse and obliterate the prejudices which separate man from man. With this conviction the Legislature, it is to be hoped, will shortly approach the momentous subject of Education, not with reference to the poor only, but to all classes. Our system of instruction still falls very far short of what it ought to be, considering the advantages we enjoy, and the great force and capacity of the minds with which nature has gifted us.

Mr. St. John has discussed a subject of universal interest, scarcely omitting from notice a single educational theory of the day, and in all cases rendering justice to individuals. The book is written with warmth, grace, and power, and abounds in practical suggestions.

CHRISTIANITY IN CHINA.

Christianity in China, Tartary, and Thibet. By M. l'Abbé Huc. Vol. III. Longman and Co.

The world will hear little more about the subtle civilization of China. The manners of that empire will bear no close inspection. It may be tolerable to an overgrown community to eat vermin and even to commit infanticide, but our ideal of Chinese polity has been disfigured by authentic reports from its theatrical interior. Every great viceregal city in the realm has its field of blood, where the executioner's axe is seldom idle, and where the crucifixion of women is but a prelude to carving the flesh from their bodies; every prison is a Black Hole of Calcutta, and it needs a little European light let in to purify the vast den of pestilence and tyranny. If mankind could subsist upon elephants' teeth and tea-caddies it would be possible to regard China as a polished community; but from an imperial junk to a mandarin's button everything in that country is hollow, ostentatious, and deceptive. Destitute of a state religion the Chinese are nevertheless among the most superstitious of races; with a formal code of etiquette their habitual demeanour is that of barbarous insolence; their paternal government is the most unmitigated despotism upon the globe; and if there be a point at which the arbitrary action of the Pekin decrees may be said to cease, it is where a vicarious prerogative is entrusted to some half-bred provincial dictator like Commissioner Yeh. These characteristics are stamped upon China to this day, and they colour its history from the remotest times. The Abbé Huc is not disinclined to favour the blue-robed subjects of the yellow potentate; he knows them; he has received their hospitality; his predecessors of the apostolic order repose upon Chinese territory in honoured tombs; but he has too keen an eye not to penetrate the grotesque unreality of the show they present to the people of the West. Unprogressive, degenerate, devoid of national spirit, China, it would seem, has passed her zenith, and is now travelling towards some mighty change. The Tartar dynasty is morally exhausted; the secrets of the empire are known; the imperial army has been upon the defensive for several years; the population is as willing, on the coast at least, to obey a foreign military occupation as a Tartar viceroy, the monuments of ancient generations are irreverently permitted to decay, and, while secluding itself from the rest of the world, the immense but incoherent realm is not only eaten away by political friction on all sides, but settles down into chaos internally. Another Khang-Hi may rise to be the Avator of Manchu imperialism, but there are no indications of a regenerating spirit. The Chinese are approaching their apheion, and the Abbé Huc's work is valuable and interesting, partly because it illustrates the causes that have operated to the debasement of a nation so celebrated and so unique in its arts and in the vicissitudes of its history.

While the problems of Chinese character and policy are attentively studied in the West, this third volume of the Abbé Huc should command no common attention. It is the continuation of a great narrative extending from the doubtful apostleship of St. Thomas, the early Arab explorations, the Nestorian missions, the conquests of the Tartar emperors, the embassies of St. Louis, and the break of a Christian dawn among the mechanical religionists of Thibet, to the commencement of the eighteenth century. The first two volumes flowed with the story of romantic adventure, with sun-bright legends, with quaint but attractive interludes of Catholic criticism; the Abbé Huc found the sources of his relation not only among the chronicles of the Wangs, but among the peaks of the Northern Farnassus, the frozen fountains of the Eddas; he ranged from the Sibylline books to

Maricandeya, and quitted Virgil to quote from the Puranas. In this volume his path is more direct, his perspective more clear; starting with the ignominious collapse of the Ming dynasty, which was literally strangled out of existence upon a hill-top, the Abbé Huc traces the fortunes of the Jesuit missions to the death of Khang-Hi, the great Mantchu emperor, who began his reign at fourteen years of age, who employed the apostolic missionaries to found cannon for him, who delighted to witness the confusion of his astronomers by Western science, and who, as Layolaus says, was secretly persuaded to despise Confucius, and regard the image of Buddha as a gorgeous block. To repudiate Buddhism, of course, was never considered impious on the part of a Chinese emperor; but if the holy fathers did succeed in converting Khang-Hi their logic deserves commemoration. It is to be suspected, however, that they laboured for ascendancy, reserving the crowning of their work by a sacred triumph for happier and distant days, for although we find mention of many fortifications, guns, and field-pieces, of dials, astronomical observations, mathematical instruments, and other contrasts between Western incendiarianism and the Conservatism of China, the record is modest on the subject of doctrinal victories gained over the imperial conscience. While the chief missionaries, however, were maintaining their intellectual supremacy at the palace, the lesser lights of Catholicism illuminated the provinces, and thus the devotion of Schall and Verbiest was far from fruitless. As they themselves avowed, it was a grand success to secure for their brethren the liberty of preaching in all parts of the empire, even though commentators at home attacked them for dining at golden tables, and accepting effulgent titles of honour. They had a policy, and they developed it with rare genius and persistency. How they met their good and evil fortune, what they saw, what China was at the time of their residence, and how the empire ebbed down to its actual condition may be studied in the Abbé Huc's volumes, the last of which is not less a book of brilliant picture and incident than its predecessors.

SPORTING AMONG THE KAFFIRS.

Sporting Scenes among the Kaffirs of South Africa. By Captain Alfred Drayson, Royal Artillery. Routledge and Co.

In these sketches, and the sporting adventures they record, an attempt is made to furnish the novice with information useful to him when commencing a sporting career in the tropical regions of Africa. For a campaign against the *fera natura* of that portion of the globe, it may be usefully suggested that a double-barrelled smooth bore of eight or ten balls to the pound, having strength and good plain workmanship for its sole recommendation, is perhaps the most eligible weapon the sportsman can select. A double-barrelled rifle of the same calibre may be useful; a supplementary stock should be provided for each gun, the barrels being arranged so as to fit either stock. In the multifarious accidents occurring to an adventurer, amongst rocks and precipices, a broken stock is a not unfrequent event, and it is not easily replaced in the wilds of Africa. A Colt's revolver would also be a very available weapon, especially if used from the saddle against elands. It may be tried, when going at full speed, with much greater success than can be attained with an ordinary gun. With respect to the chances of sport offered to a skilful marksman hunting in the deserts of Kaffirland, it may be observed that throughout the interior game is of unlimited quantity, and the reports of Lichtenstein, Harris, Cumming, and Livingstone may be received as literally true. The land is, in fact, overrun with animals of chase, the hunters being in no proportion to their abundance.

In addition to his descriptions of adventure in the pursuit of elephants, elands, and the Cape wild boar, Captain Drayson digresses into some timely and practical observations upon a professional subject now engrossing much of public attention. We refer to that absurd style of uniform and equipment forced upon the British soldier when engaged on service during the late Kaffir war. Captain Drayson says:—"What, in his ordinary dress and accoutrements, was often the result to the British soldier of a Kaffir skirmish in the bush? Seeing his Hottentot *compagnons d'armes* dash into the dense thorny covert, and not wishing to be outdone by these little 'black fellows,' he sets its abrading properties at defiance, and boldly rushes in on their wake. His progress is, however, soon arrested; an opposing branch knocks off the tall conical machine curiously balanced, like a milk-maid's pail, on the top of his head. He stoops down to recover his lost treasure, and in so doing his 'pouch-box' goes over his head, his 'crossbelts' become entangled. Hearing a brisk fire all around, and wishing to have a part in the fun, he makes an effort to get on to the front, but finds himself most unaccountably held in the obstinate grasp of an unexpected native foe. The thick-spreading and verdant bush under which the 'shako' has rolled is the '*wacht-een-beetje*,' and to his cost he feels in his woollen garments the tenacious hold of its hooked claws, for the more he struggles to get free, the more he becomes entangled in the thorny web. He now hears 'retire' echoing through the adjoining rocks, and his friends the 'Totties,' as they briskly run past, warn him in their retreat that the enemy—who knows right well our bugle calls—is at their heels. Exhausted by his protracted struggle, whilst maddened at the thought of falling into the power of his cruel foe, the poor fellow makes a desperate effort to escape. In doing so, the ill-omened shako is left to its fate, the '*wacht-een-beetje*' retains in triumph part of his dress. As he 'breaks covert,' the Kaffirs, with insulting yells, blaze away at him from the bush, and scudding across the plain, towards his party, with the ill-adjusted pouch bumping up and down behind, the poor wretch, in addition to the balls whistling around him, is exposed, as he approaches, to the jeers and laughter of his more fortunate comrades!"

Captain Drayson, however, has not the slightest intention to detract from the general efficiency of the Cape troops, in spite of these and a hundred other absurdities by which that efficiency is impaired. He considers that a man who carries weight ought not to be matched against one unhampered by similar retarding influences, and he ventures also to believe a man would be able both to fight and to march better if he were not half choked or half crushed by his accoutrements.

Returning to the subject of Captain Drayson's sylvan adventures, we vainly seek to identify with them those glowing pictures of Arcadian simplicity and freedom from all the cares and anxieties of daily life depicted by an early traveller and great sportsman in his rambles at the Cape. We allude to *Le Vaillant*, on the veracity of whose travels great doubt has been thrown recently. A contemporary author scruples not to affirm that the French narrative is a myth merely, and his book, of course, as completely a work of fiction as the adventures of Crusoe and of Peter Wilkins. We do not purpose entering here into a critical examination of the controversy. Lichtenstein, who travelled extensively over the same ground, boldly asserts that the man who wrote *Le Vaillant's* account of the habits, and especially the mode of locomotion attributed to the giraffe, could never in his life have seen the animal. Other explorers, competent to express an opinion, declare the character of Narina, the savage nymph, to be a pure impossibility in savage life. Captain Drayson does not offer an opinion on the subject. He however tells us that no similar adventure occurred to him whilst sojourning in Kaffirland. He saw, indeed, one celebrated beauty, "highly dressed, in the extreme of fashion, not in crinoline or embroidery, but in beads and brass. Round her head she had a broad band of light blue and white beads; a pendant string of the latter hung in a graceful curve over her eyelids, giving them the sleepy, indolent look assumed by so many of our own fair sex. Round her neck in numbers strings of beads were negligently hung. On her wrists she wore bracelets made of beads and brass, whilst a fringe of monkey's hair encircled her ankles. To these adornments the most affable and agreeable manners were added, quite divested of that hauteur and assumption so often practised by acknowledged belles. She had a most graceful way of taking snuff; and stuck through her ears were two long mimosa thorns for the purpose of combing her woolly locks. Such was Peshanna. I think all must agree in placing her on record as a most charming and divine nymph!" On another occasion he describes a young Kaffir girl coming each evening to his tent with a bowl of milk and some corn, and putting them down quietly beside him she looked with her wild black eyes into his face, murmuring musically, "*Ar ko inkosi*" (Yours, chief). Neither of these damsels, however, realize the Frenchman's portraiture of Narina.

To the general reader, as well as to the enthusiastic and far-wandering sportsman, this will prove a very agreeable volume. Its passages of narrative and very sensible remarks and suggestions on a subject of present importance—the dress and equipment of our armies—are especially recommended to the attention of the Horse Guards authorities.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL JOHN JACOB.

The Views and Opinions of Brigadier-General John Jacob, C.B. Collected and Edited by Captain Lewis Pelly, Author of 'Our North-West Frontier.' Second Edition. Smith, Elder, and Co.

GENERAL JACOB'S 'Views and Opinions' have been arranged by Captain Pelly under five heads:—Civil Administration, Military Matters, the North-West Frontier, the Persian War, and the Present Condition of India. In a well-written and judiciously-argued preface, Captain Pelly remarks: "I am convinced that no unprejudiced person, accurately acquainted with the history of our native army, can read these military papers, or become familiar with the practice in which they result, without perceiving that the principles advocated are in exact conformity with whatever has been or still may be worthy in the constitution of that army. I believe there is scarcely a commanding officer or an adjutant of a regiment who would not at once acknowledge that the details in which he has found himself hampered are those pointed out in these papers." Captain Pelly adopts the view, which is that, we imagine, of every practical reasoner on the subject, that a reorganized native army must be established in India; and shows how General Jacob, at the hazard of his commission, standing long alone in the face of obloquy and opposition, has consistently exposed the vices of the old military system in India, predicted its failure, and created a model for the use of reformers in his own splendid regiments of Scinde irregular horse. Two of these regiments have been formed from materials drawn from the very heart of the revolted districts, and their loyalty and efficiency are celebrated throughout India. A third regiment is now about to be mounted. Jacob's battalions, it was originally feared, depended altogether upon his personal qualities, but a regiment sent on foreign service under a young lieutenant, was handled as effectually as if it had remained in Scinde. Captain Pelly has done good service in arranging and editing these admirable and practical memoirs, which may be consulted with facility by the aid of a copious index.

PUBLICATIONS AND REPUBLICATIONS.

MR. BENTLEY sends us the first volume of M. Guizot's *Memoirs to Illustrate the History of my own Time*, so long announced and so eagerly expected. The chapters of the present volume range from the year 1807 to 1830, from the statesman's first introduction into political and intellectual society in 1807 to within a few days of the revolution of July. It will easily be imagined how full of personal and political interest are the reminiscences of so conspicuous an actor on a crowded, illustrious, and agitated scene. M. Guizot's opening sentence, in which he gives his reasons for publishing his *Memoirs* while he is 'still here to answer for' what he writes, are deeply impressive for the sustained and mournful dignity of their tone. How dramatic and suggestive is the concluding paragraph of the volume!—"A few days before the decrees of July, the Russian ambassador had an audience of the king. He found him seated before his desk, with his eyes fixed on the Charter, opened at Article 14. Charles X. read and re-read that article, seeking with honest inquietude the interpretation he wanted to find there. In such cases we always discover what we are in search of; and the king's conversation, although indirect and uncertain, left little doubt on the ambassador's mind as to the measures in preparation." We shall give a faithful account of the intervening pages next week. The 'historic documents' annexed contribute in no slight degree to the value of the *Memoirs*. Mr.

J. W. Cole's translation seems, at a first glance, to be at once spirited and careful, unembarrassed and correct.

Dr. Noble has recast and expanded a chapter in his work on the 'Elements of Psychological Medicine,' which we had an opportunity of commending to our readers about three years ago. Under the title of *The Human Mind in its Relations with the Brain and Nervous System* (Churchill), the debatable ground between psychology and physiology is boldly and thoughtfully explored. We shall probably return to these pages.

The prevailing fashion among Quarterly essayists of republishing their occasional prose in a collective and permanent shape threatens to be somewhat in excess. Mr. Hayward's *Biographical and Critical Essays* (Longmans), reprinted from the *Edinburgh* and the *Quarterly*, are perhaps exceptional in interest and character, from the choice of subjects and the opportunities which the writer has enjoyed, and unsparingly used, of personal illustrations. We shall dip deeper into Mr. Hayward's volumes.

The second and third volumes of Mr. Motley's *Rise of the Dutch Republic* complete the new and cheap edition (Routledge) of this excellent work, which is sure to be welcomed by an extending circle of readers. A serviceable index is annexed to the concluding volume.

Messrs. Smith and Elder have added to their cheap series of standard copyright works, *Wuthering Heights*, by Ellis Bell, and *Agnes Grey*, by Acton Bell, with a Preface and Memoir of both authors by Currer Bell. These two tales, the one so weird and terrible, the other so dark and melancholy, are more than ever interesting to read now that we have the mystery of their authorship, not only half unveiled by the sister's preface, but fully revealed by Mrs. Gaskell's 'Life of Charlotte Brontë.' The publishers whose names are so honourably associated with a most strange and striking episode in literary history, may well feel a sad but honest pride in contributing these stories to the present series. We are glad to find Wilkie Collins's *After Dark* the next on the file for publication in this convenient form. The stories grouped together under that title with all the writer's inimitable constructive skill and delightful ingenuity, are, as many of our readers remember, of a most varied texture; in each and all the interest is breathlessly sustained, and the tone unvaryingly generous and healthy, as the style is rich and pure.

In the way of novels, we have received *The Netherwoods of Otterpool* (3 vols.) from Mr. Bentley; and *Billets and Biconacs; or, Military Adventures*, from Mr. Routledge, whom we have to thank also (in behalf of our readers) for a shilling edition of *The Common Objects of the Country*, by the Rev. J. G. Wood, a charming little book in spirit and in treatment, a pleasant friend for the fireside, and a desirable companion in a country walk.

The volume entitled *Labour and Triumph*, noticed last week, is published by Messrs. Griffin and Co., not Messrs. "Griffith and Co."

The title of a popular work, or a work intended to become popular, need not be such as to bear the offensive construction of being specially adapted to mean capacities, whether of purse or intellect. *Handy Helps to Useful Knowledge* (W. H. Angel) is a title which unfortunately does bear something very closely trenching upon that construction; at all events it is obviously meant to catch the vulgar. This is a pity, because the work is in itself good. Four articles, each published at the price of one penny, are here collected under a neat wrapper. The conductors propose to take up interesting topics as they arise, and, by entrusting them to competent writers, to make the work as permanently useful as it will have been seasonable in detail. The subjects already treated are 'The Eclipse,' the 'Three Napoleons,' 'Sir Colin Campbell,' and the 'Races of India.' The space given to each is hardly enough to sustain the purpose of utility; but in all the articles we perceive a conscientious effort to give the fullest information, in a really compact and workmanlike manner. We are only afraid, from our knowledge of poor and rich readers, that the name will keep this work from bookshelves where its presence would be an acquisition.

The Arts.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

FROM nine till dusk, and again (by a new and very commendable arrangement) from seven till ten o'clock in the evening, there may be seen, at the PORTLAND GALLERY, in Regent-street, five hundred and seventy-six pictures, of which we propose to take notice of precisely eleven.

There is no getting over the fact that Mr. R. S. LAUDER's great scriptural composition, 'Christ Betrayed' (334), is the most noticeable of those eleven pictures, exhibited by an institution which is distinctly national. Mr. R. S. LAUDER can paint very skillfully and effectively, and he has tied himself down to subjects generally associated with the second Italian period of art. That he recalls that period in his treatment and method of colour, would be too much to say. To do Mr. LAUDER justice, he is a rather original artist. But though, among moderns, he has a style of his own, it is evidently founded on a study of the Florentine school; and whatever characteristics may have been superadded are not by any means national characteristics. In the picture of 'Christ Betrayed' he has repeated all the types used by LEONARDO DA VINCI and others, even to the attitudes and positions of the heads. Take those, especially, of the chief figure and of the disciple JOHN, whose face is in profile. The actual painting of all the faces, though blurry and blunt in outline, is vigorous; and the same may be said of the hands, in which there is an expression not often to be found except in pictures of the highest quality.

MR. JAMES ECKFORD LAUDER, whose mannerism is as great and of the same kind as that of Mr. R. S. LAUDER, does not redeem it by any praiseworthy trait, at least in his 'Song of Praise' (39). This is another devotional production, consisting of one figure, apparently painted from a Scotch ideal—we trust not from a Scotch or English reality. Encouragement is given us to hope that the features exist only in the mind of the painter; for the lily-branch borne by the damsel and even the volume she holds before her eyes are equally unlike anything in nature or bookbinding.

MR. SMALLFIELD's pictures will be agreeably contrasted with the namby-pambyism by which they are surrounded on some of the screens. 'Afternoon Service in Summer Time' (205) is, perhaps, the cleverest picture in the gal-

lery; try it by no higher standard than that of cleverness, and it will bear comparison with anything we have seen since last year's French exhibition. The face of a sleeping girl is painfully true to a common class of ugliness, and the partially hidden face which rests on that girl's shoulder is excellently drawn and finished. Altogether, this is a work to be looked at long and attentively.

Mr. HENRY MOORE is a pupil, one might almost be inclined to assert on the evidence afforded by his works, of Mr. Hook, whose pictures of fisherman life were praised by Mr. RUSKIN last year. The 'Young Mariners' (440) is not Mr. Moore's best picture, but it is greatest in intention. We have named this painter next to Mr. SMALLEFIELD, whose careful and almost microscopic finish is nearly rivals; and we may place in juxtaposition with both these names the name of Mr. J. G. NALSH, whose picture, 'The Receding Tide, Port du Moulin, Island of Sark' (156), appears to have been painted with close observation. He explains that the peculiar colour of the beach (almost pure cobalt apparently) increased by the great quantity of blue eyenite or soap-stone there deposited. But we must ask him how he accounts for the peculiar texture of the brown rocks, which surely cannot be natural to them?

In Mr. PABOTT's 'Scene from the Quai du Louvre, Paris' (30), there is much to praise, particularly in the architectural portions. His weak point is the foliage on the left hand of the foreground; and it is also to be objected that the variety of colours in the costume of the groups is, unfortunately, not a truthful characteristic of a Parisian scene.

Mr. W. UNDERHILL's 'Waiting for Fish' (2), and Mr. CHARLES DUKE's 'Welsh Bridge' (4), manifest no improvement in the respective hands. Both the Messrs. UNDERHILL, in this exhibition, prove that they have settled into the coarse, dirty style from which their deliverance appeared once to be near at hand. Of Mr. DUKE the same may be said, with this addition, that his poverty of idea makes the monotony of his manner all the more irksome. Mr. PABOTT, usually a favourite with us, does not exhibit anything worthy his power.

The landscapes of SIDNEY PERCY and the WILLIAMSES are all good of their kind; but they are more hurried this year than ever, and on inspection, will appear to be mere scene-painting. The 'Welsh Valley' (90), by Mr. A. WILLIAMS, and 'Our River' (45), are the two best of these family productions. There is a landscape that stands apart, less on account of its skill than a quiet homely truth and sentiment—we mean Mr. H. B. GRAY's 'English Landscape' (35). It is really what its name implies. Further to describe its characteristics, we may briefly say that it is a golden harvest scene, enameled with field flowers, human as well as botanical.

PENCIL NOTES.

A LARGER and better exhibition of photographs than any that London has yet seen is at the SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM. It is the fifth exhibition of the Photographic Society, removed hither, this season, from Pall-mall. Among the views, FENTON's and F. FRITH's are conspicuous; THURSTON THOMPSON's and HOWLETT's following in order of merit. Mr. FENTON exhibits a great many, his finest being 'Glen Lieder' (517), a magnificent massing of rock, forest, and river scenery. The views in Palestine and Egypt, by young Mr. FRITH, are marvels of sun-painting; and it need scarcely be added that they are equal in interest to any series of photographs in their company. A 'Lane Scene' (414), by Mr. THURSTON THOMPSON, is very beautiful. This gentleman exhibits several fine studies of trees. Mr. HOWLETT has photographed the Leviathan, in every possible aspect, and in every stage of its iron growth. Perhaps the best specimen ever taken from a waxed-paper negative is Mr. MELHUIS's 'Valley of the Lyn' (143). As a picture of bold forest scenery, it is also deserving notice. Messrs. T. and R. MUDG's photographs of natural scenes, also taken by the waxed-paper process, are nearly as good. Copies of paintings constitute a rather large department of the exhibition. Mr. HOWLETT's are very numerous, and are all more or less praiseworthy; but the most successful photograph in this branch is CALDESI and MONTECCI's copy of STANFIELD's well-known picture 'The Abandoned' (22). The photographic equality of colours in the original painting of course goes a long way to account for the pre-eminence of this work. The portraits include a good likeness of TENNYSON, by Mr. DOWNES (36). The most delicate and pleasing of the untouched portraits are those by Mr. WILLIAMS. Of a bolder and occasionally a more pictu-

resque kind are Mr. LAKE PRICE's portraits of eminent painters. They are of a large size, like the portraits which Mr. HERBERT WATKINS has made so popular; and are equal to that gentleman's productions in vigour and fidelity. We believe that nine in ten persons who visit this collection will be most struck by the subject pictures which Mr. PRICE exhibits. His 'Don Quixote' (420) and his 'Robinson Crusoe' (550, 554, 561, and 564) are wonderful specimens of pictorial arrangement, but we can hardly praise the system of perpetuating by means of photography a parcel of clever *tableaux vivans*. Against coloured photographs, in the vast majority of instances, we set our decided protest; but such pictures as those by Mr. LOCK are proof against our objections. We can only quote a remark of Mr. ALBERT SMITH, and say that in the large frame exhibited by Messrs. LOCK and WHITFIELD will be found "a perfect gallery of English beauties." Since the opening of the exhibition, a fine collection of French photographs has been added. Of these we particularly observed some most wonderful microscopic objects by BERTSCH, showing how valuable photography must be to the student of natural history. The portraits, in this supplementary exhibition, are great in merit and in personal interest.

Mr. LEGGATT, the print publisher of Cornhill, opened a new gallery some two or three months ago, and it is now filled with French pictures, chiefly gathered from the Pall-mall exhibition of last year. MEISSONNIER's laborious triviality, the 'Chess-players,' will be found in a central and prominent situation. There are also some of M. EDOUARD FRANK's charming bits of nature, and of M. SCHLUSINGER's clever tricks of art. The gem of the exhibition, however, is Madlle. ROSA BONHEUR's latest work, a group of Highland cattle. The picture hangs opposite her celebrated 'Horse Fair,' and will show the least artistic eye that Madlle. BONHEUR's genius is progressive.

There is a large picture, by Mr. BARKER, on view at the Auction Mart, in Lothbury. Its subject is the Corso, at Rome, in Carnival time. A false start has been made, and all the horses thrown into confusion, by one of their number dashing against the rope, and bringing himself and his groom to the ground. We cannot praise Mr. BARKER for any quality of his that appears in his new work. All the figures, whether of horse or man, are exaggerated in position, and, being on the balance, do not give any idea of movement. The colour is crude and harsh, while the drawing is, in parts at least, questionable.

The 'Moore Raphael,' an engraving of which was published in the *Leader* eight years ago, is now in Paris. An article in the *Journal des Débats* of March 13, strikingly confirms our judgment, given in 1850. The writer says:—

This picture, of about the dimensions of the 'Vision of Ezekiel,' suggests, by its style and handling, the period when the great Italian artist painted the 'Marriage of the Virgin' (Le Sposalizio), which is at Milan: yet the remarkable vigour of the modelling and of the colouring in the picture of 'Apollo and Marsyas,' would justify the belief that it was executed at a period somewhat posterior. But whatever may be the precise year in which it was painted, it is of that time when Raphael, quitting the manner of Perugino, his master, passed to a new style, and threw himself into that brilliant career which he subsequently pursued.

We were led, by certain indications in the picture, to fix the date about the year 1504, while RAPHAEL had still some of his early crudities clinging to him, but after he had visited Florence, and had gained by intimacy with the broad daylight style of colouring practised by the masters of that city.

A remarkable collection of paintings in enamel is exhibited at the MURICH GALLERY, No. 2, Frith-street, Soho-square. It requires some courage to set about a work of any considerable size in enamel painting; for the difference of half a degree in the heat necessary to burn in the colours will upset the labour of weeks. Hence, the exquisite productions of BONE and ESSIX are, like those of their predecessor, JEAN PETITOT, simply miniatures. Whether more certainty has been ensured or not by recent experience and improvements, we cannot tell; but the artists of the pictures exhibited at the MURICH GALLERY have manifested a boldness which we can only suppose to be warranted by superior knowledge of their agents. Among specimens of skill in a branch of art so merely mechanical and imitative, we do not wonder to find good and bad originals copied with equal fidelity. Three pictures of still life, after WERMEER, are the most consummate in their finish and microscopic truth of detail. A copy of a portrait by LEONARDO DA VINCI is almost ridiculously successful in its photographic reproduction of peculiarities. Another copy, from a meretricious German 'master,' is just as curiously exact. A Murillo displays, perhaps, the greatest amount of intelligence in the transfer of expression from canvas to porcelain. We recommend these pictures to all who may have leisure to pay them a visit.

THE FORTHCOMING EASTER ENTERTAINMENTS.—Mr. Puckton has provided for his Easter patrons a classical extravaganza, by the author of *Atalanta*, called *Plato and Proserpine*, with scenery from the bright and elegant brush of Mr. William Callcott. At the Adelphi there is to be a new operatic spectacle, with the title of *The Caliph of Bagdad*; the music by Boisseldiere, and the characters by Mr. Rolfe, Mr. Paul Bedford, Mr. Blund, Miss Roden, Miss Mary Keeley, Miss Arden, &c. Mr. Kean, at the Princess's, produces a new farce, and re-produces *Finist* and *Marguerite*. Miss Swanborough, on Monday, inaugurates her lesseeship of the Strand by a new comedy, written by Mr. Stirling Coyne, entitled, *Nothing Venture, Nothing Have*; a burlesque on the subject of *Fra Diavolo*, and a farce. Some of the best actors and actresses from the Drury Lane company will lend their aid to the fair lessee; and Mr. Albert Smith has written an opening address. The *Sunday* will produce a new drama called *The Confession*, concerning the strength of the company. At Astley's, the bombardment of Canton is to be converted into a dancing, jousting, stimulant to the patriotism of the audience; and, at the Standard, Miss Glyn, Mr. Phelps, Mr. Henry Marston, and others, are to act tragedy, followed by 'a grand tale of enchantment'—name unstated. Mr. Robson, at the Olympic, produces nothing new; and the Lyceum, it would appear, is not at present to be reopened.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.—On the 29th March, at Taplow, the wife of Edward N. Conant, Esq., a daughter.
On the 29th March, at Tunbridge Wells, the wife of Robert Dallas, Esq., a son.
MARRIAGES.—On the 23rd Dec., at Koorings,

South Australia, John Henry Browne, Esq., of Buckland-park, near Adelaide, to Margaret Anne Frances, second daughter of the late Rev. Lansdowne Guiding, rector and garrison chaplain of St. Vincent, W.I.

GERARD-APPLETON.—On the 31st March, at Christ Church, Harpurhey, Manchester, John Gerrard, Esq., Adlington, to Elizabeth Anne, daughter of the late John Appleton, Esq., of Colleyhurst.

DEATHS.

HERRICK.—At Calcutta, on the 12th Feb. Lieut. Arthur Herrick, H.M.'s 54th Regt., eldest son of Captain Edward Herrick, R.N., aged 21.

MORTON.—On the morning of the 31st March, at 47, Brook-street, the Earl of Morton, aged 68.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Thursday Evening, April 1.

THERE has been no improvement in the markets since the setting, and the announcement of the Indian loan of five millions has had no effect on the market. The rise in Paris of Rentes and railway shares is not followed by the usual marked improvement of our prices here. There is an uneasy, distrustful feeling. There is expected to be a financial difficulty for Mr. Disraeli to solve, and with this and the India Government Bill in prospect, can the present Ministry endure through a session? is a question that people constantly ask.

In foreign stocks the purchases in Peruvians are now completed, and it is doubtful if we shall see that stock much higher at present. Buenos Ayren and Brazilian seem a favourite investment just now. Turkish Six per Cents. and Four per Cents. are flatter this week. In colonial railway shares East Indian guarantee shares are slightly firmer. Canada Trunks and Great Western of Canada are depressed. Most of the colonial government bonds are in demand. Nova Scotia, Canada, and the various Australian colonial government bonds are in request. In our railway markets there is but little rally, the decrease of traffic show how much the trade of the country has fallen off. Eastern Counties and South Wales alone are steady. Caledonians have fallen to 86.

Three o'clock.—The bank board has broken up and made no alteration in the rate of discount. It is understood that the Indian loan has been taken at about an average of 98.

Blackburn, 9, 10; Caledonian, 86, 87; Chester and Holyhead, 36, 38; Eastern Counties, 58, 59; Great Northern, 102, 103; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 98, 100; Great Western, 57, 58; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 87, 88; London and Blackwall, 6, 6; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 105, 107; London and North-Western, 83, 84; London and South-Western, 91, 92; Midland, 93, 94; North-Eastern (Berwick), 90, 91; South-Eastern (Dover), 60, 70; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 5, 6; Dutch Rhensish, 34, 34, dis.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 27, 27; Great Central of France, —; Great Luxembourg, 71, 81; Northern of France, 37, 38; Paris and Lyons, 32, 33; Royal Danish, 16, 16; Royal Swedish 4, 4; Sambre and Meuse, 71, 81.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Thursday, April 1.

THERE has been but a short supply of English wheat during the week, and oats have sold slowly at previous rates. Barley has been rather cheaper; English beans 1s. per quarter dearer; peas dull. On the whole, business has been flat, and prices do not show any upward tendency.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3 per Cent. Red.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3 per Cent. Cons. An.	97½	97½	97½	97½	97	97
Consols for Account	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
New 3 per Cent. An.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New 2½ per Cent. An.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1850	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
India Stock	.....	.....	229	.....	.....	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000	21 p	24 p	.....	18 p	12 p	.....
Ditto, under £1000	.....	.....	.....	30 p	.....	.....
Ex. Bills, £1000	38 p	35 p	38 p	38 p	34 p	.....
Ditto, £200	.....	36 p	.....	35 p	.....	.....
Ditto, Small	.....	39 p	38 p	35 p	.....	.....

Holiday.

FOREIGN FUNDS.

LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.)

Braslian Bonds.....	104 1/2	Portuguese 4 per Cents.	104 1/2
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents.....	78	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents.....	109 1/2
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	104	Russian 4 1/2 per Cents.....	100
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	104	Spanish Committee Cor-	45 1/2
Dutch 2 1/2 per Cents.....	104	of Coup. not fun.....	101 1/2
Dutch 4 per Cent. Corf.....	104	Turkish 6 per Cents.....	101 1/2
Ecuador Bonds.....	104	Turkish New, 4 ditto.....	104
Mexican Account.....	104	Venezuela 4 1/2 per Cents.....	104
Peruvian 4 1/2 per Cents.....	83 1/2		
Portuguese 3 per Cents.....	46		

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, March 30.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—ALEXANDER REID, Southall-green, Middlesex, dealer in potatoes and other vegetables.

BANKRUPT.—JOHN DALES, and BENJAMIN DALES, George st., Westminster, Times Wharf, Fimlico, Louth, Lincolnshire, and of Canada West, North America, builders and contractors.—WILLIAM POWELL, Lowestoft, Suffolk, grocer.—GEORGE ARMITAGE, Clements-lane, iron merchant and commission agent.—URBAIN BRIARD, Sherrard-street, Golden-square, tailor.—CHARLES HELDER, Great Winchester-street, and Lower Homerton-terrace, Homerton, carpenter and builder.—WALTER JONES, and CHARLES JONES, High-street, Islington, tallow chandlers, oil and Italian ware.—JAMES WILSON, Glasgow, Yorkshire, Worcester, bookbinder and stationer.—JOSHUA HANSON, and JAMES HANSON, Huddersfield, woollen spinners.—JOSEPH MITCHELL, Sheffield, builder, and Leicester, worsted spinner.—GEORGE LEBITT, Sheffield, busk manufacturer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—P. DALLAS, Inverness, grocer.—G. FORBES, Edinburgh, wine merchant.—BUCHANAN and LOCKHART, Glasgow, wine merchants.—J. DALEY, Grangemouth, watch dealer.—J. RUSSELL, Pollock-haw, ironmonger.

Friday, April 2.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—WILLIAM NICHOLS, Wilsden, Yorkshire, worsted spinner.—JAMES DENT, and JAMES CRABTREE, Windhill, Yorkshire, machine makers.

BANKRUPT.—JOHN INCE, Wilton-street, Grosvenor-place, apothecary.—JOHN BUNTON, King's Lynn, Norfolk, hotel and innkeeper.—GEORGE WHITE the elder, Eagle-terrace, Victoria Dock-road, Plaistow, tailor and draper.—HENRY SEATON, Chelmsford, Essex, woollen draper and tailor.—JAMES WILLIAM GOLDIE, Brighouse, Yorkshire, card maker.—JOHN PHILLIPS, Birmingham, wood turner and timber dealer.—WEBSTER MORRIS, Oxford, printer.—THOMAS MORRISON, Rhyl, Flintshire, coal merchant.—WILLIAM HARRISON and GEORGE TAYLOR, Hadlow, Kent, maltsters and brewers.—EDWARD SHINGLE, Birmingham, boot and shoe maker.—CHAD FISHER RICHARDSON, late of Church-street, Stoke Newington, victualler, but now of Midway Villas, Stoke Newington.—JAMES STREED, Monson Nursery, North-street, Red Hill, Reigate.—CHARLES JAMES and HENRY JOHN EVANS, Beer-lane, City, and Bermondsey-street, coopers and basket makers.—WILLIAM WESTON YOUNG, JOSEPH WESTON YOUNG, and GEORGE YOUNG, Neath, Glamorganshire, millers, and corn and provision merchants.—HENRY ROBERT WILKINS, Westbromwich, draper.

THE AMERICAN HORSE TAMER.

Mr. BAREY'S arrangements for Teaching in Classes his Method of Training Colts and Taming vicious Horses, after the Easter Holidays, are as follow:—

Monday	April 12	At the Round House,
Tuesday	" 13	Kinnerton-street,
Wednesday	" 14	Motcombe-street,
Thursday	" 15	Belgravia.
Saturday	" 17	In Yorkshire.
Monday	" 20	"
Tuesday	" 21	"
Wednesday	" 22	In Dublin.
Thursday	" 23	"
Monday	May 3	"
Tuesday	" 4	"
Wednesday	" 5	At the Round House,
Thursday	" 6	Kinnerton-street,
Monday	" 10	Motcombe street,
Tuesday	" 11	Belgravia.
Wednesday	" 12	"
Thursday	" 13	"

BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS.

Price 1s. 1ld. and 2s. 6d. per box.

THIS preparation is one of the benefits which the science of modern chemistry has conferred upon mankind; for during the first twenty years of the present century to speak of a cure for the Gout was considered a romance; but now the efficacy and safety of this medicine is so fully demonstrated by unsolicited testimonials from persons in every rank of life, that public opinion proclaims this as one of the most important discoveries of the present age.

These Pills require no restraint of diet or confinement during their use, and are certain to prevent the disease attacking any vital part.

Sold by all Medicine Vendors. See the name of "THOMAS PHOBT, 229, Strand, London," on the Government Stamp.

An Act of Sincere Gratitude.—5000 Copies of a Medical Book to be given away!!!

A CLERGYMAN OF THE CHURCH OF

ENGLAND, having been cured of severe Nervousness, Pains in the Head, Loss of Memory, Indigestion, Debility, Prostration, and other fearful symptoms, not the least of which was the great mental anguish resulting from the terrors occasioned by the frauds of wicked pretenders, adopts this unusual mode of testifying his deep gratitude, by publishing, for the benefit of others, the means employed for his own marvellous restoration to health and happiness, to which he had long been a stranger. He will therefore send a copy of the remarkable book containing all the necessary information, on receipt of two penny stamps to prepay postage. Address: Rev. H. R. Travers, M.A., 1, North Cumberland Place, Bayswater, Middlesex.

CAUTION.—The advertiser regrets to find that of late several disreputable quacks have dishonestly adopted this plan of puffing off their deceptive books.

MONT BLANC.—EASTER ARRANGEMENTS FOR MR. ALBERT SMITH'S NAPLES, POMPEII, AND VESUVIUS.

Saturday Afternoon, 3rd, at 3 o'clock.	
Monday Afternoon, 5th, 3	"
Monday Evening, 5th, 8	"
Tuesday Afternoon, 6th, 3	"
Tuesday Evening, 6th, 8	"
Wednesday Evening, 7th, 8	"
Thursday Afternoon, 8th, 3	"
Thursday Evening, 8th, 8	"
Friday Evening, 9th, 8	"
Saturday Afternoon, 10th, 3	"

Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

EASTER HOLIDAYS.

THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM will be open FREE, Morning and Evening, from 5th to 10th April inclusive.

By order of the Committee of Council on Education.

NEW PROGRAMME OF LECTURES delivered daily, in Dr. KAHN'S MUSEUM, 3, Tichborne-street, Haymarket. Dr. SEXTON, at a quarter past one, on "The Circulation of the Blood;" at four, on "The Curiosities and Mysteries of the Hair and Beard;" at eight, on "Skin Diseases;" and at nine, on "Reproduction." Dr. KAHN, at three, on "The Philosophy of Marriage." N.B. The Museum has received numerous additions. Admission, 1s. Dr. Kahn's Nine Lectures post free for 12 Stamps. Open (for Gentlemen only) from twelve till five, and from seven till ten.

PIESSE AND LUBIN'S

FRANGIPANNI PERFUME, 2s. 6d.
FRANGIPANNI SACRET, 1s. 6d.
FRANGIPANNI SOAP, 1s.
FRANGIPANNI POMADE, 2s.
FRANGIPANNI INCENSE, 1s. 6d.

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GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH

USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY.
And pronounced by HER MAJESTY'S LAUNDRESS to be THE FINEST STARCH SHE EVER USED.
Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, &c. &c.

SEEDS TO BE DEPENDED ON.—Timothy

Brigden, Seedsman and Florist, begs to announce that his unrivalled collection of AGRICULTURAL, VEGETABLE, and FLOWER SEEDS is now arranged, of which Priced Catalogues will be forwarded free upon application. All orders from unknown correspondents must be accompanied with P. O. order.—Seed Establishment, 10, Railway-arcade, London-bridge, London.

IMPORTANT TO EVERY MAN who KEEPS

A HORSE, COW, SHEEP, or PIG.—THORLEY'S FOOD FOR CATTLE, as used in Her Majesty's stables; also on his Royal Highness the Prince Consort's farm, Windsor. Sold in casks containing 448 lbs (with measure enclosed), price 50s. per cask; carriage paid to any railway station in the United Kingdom. For horses it is indispensable in promoting and sustaining all the animal functions in health and vigour. For milch cows it is invaluable, increasing the quantity and improving the quality of milk. For beasts nothing can compare with it for feeding quickly. For sheep and pigs its effect in one month will exceed all expectation. A pamphlet, containing testimonials from Mr. Brenner, steward to his Royal Highness the Prince Consort; Mr. James Fisher, farm manager to her Grace the Duchess of Athole; Sir David Canyngham, Bart.; Sir John Cairncart, Bart.; Sir John Ribton, Bart.; and some of the leading agriculturists of the day, may be had, post free, on application to the inventor and sole proprietor, JOSEPH THORLEY, 77, Newgate-street, London; 115, High-street, Hull. Post-office orders to be made payable at the General Post-office.

MAJOR'S IMPROVEMENTS IN VETERINARY SCIENCE.

"If progress is daily made in Medical Science by those whose duty it is to study the diseases to which the human flesh is heir, it would seem that improvements in Veterinary art quite keep pace with it, as is manifest on a visit to the well-known Horse Infirmary of Mr. Major, in Cockspur-street. Here incipient and chronic lameness is discovered and cured with a facility truly astonishing, while the efficacy of the remedies, and the quickness of their action, appear to have revolutionised the whole system of firing and blistering. Among the most recent proofs of the cure of spavins by Mr. Major, we may mention Cannobie, the winner of the Metropolitan, and second favourite for the Derby, and who is now as sound as his friends and backers could desire. And by the advertisement of Mr. Major's pamphlet in another column, we perceive that other equally miraculous cures are set forth, which place him at the head of the Veterinary art in London."—Globe, May 10, 1885.

TRIEMESAR.—Protected by Royal Letters

Patent of England, and secured by the seals of the Ecole de Pharmacie de Paris, and the Imperial College of Medicine, Vienna. Triemesar, No. 1, is a remedy for relaxation, spermatorrhoea, and exhaustion of the system. Triemesar, No. 2, effectually, in the short space of three days, completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders which capsules have so long been thought an antidote for, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population. Triemesar, No. 3, is the great Continental remedy for that class of disorders which unfortunately the English physician treats with mercury, to the inevitable destruction of the patient's constitution, and which all the sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. Triemesar, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all nauseating qualities. They may lie on the toilet table without their use being suspected.—Sold in tin cases, price 11s., free by post 1s. 8d. extra to any part of the United Kingdom, or four cases in one for 33s., by post, 3s. 2d. extra, which saves 11s.; and in 5s. cases, whereby there is a saving of 11s. 12s.; divided into separate doses, as administered by Valpeau, Lallemand, Roux, &c. Sold by Dr. Church, 78, Gracechurch-street; Bartlett Hooper, 43, King William-street; G. F. Watts, 17, Strand; Proitt, 229, Strand; Hannay, 65, Oxford-street; Sanger, 160, Oxford-street, London; K. H. Lightham, Market-street, Manchester; and Powell, 15, Westmoreland-street, Dublin.

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This Corporation has granted assurances on lives for a period exceeding One Hundred and Thirty years, and continues the practice it has invariably adopted of considering Policies not to be invalidated by the death of the party whose life is assured within the Thirty days' grace, provided the premium be paid at any time before the expiration of such Thirty days.

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Norwich, March, 1858.

ESTABLISHED 1837.

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40	1 9 2	3 18 4	3	3		2 7 6	1 4 4	0 12 4	
50	2 2 6	4 5 0	6	6		2 7 10	1 4 6	0 12 6	
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EDWARD KNOX, Esq.

JOHN B. WATT, Esq.

Resident Secretary—A. STANGER LEATHES, Esq.

CONSTITUTION AND CAPITAL.

Liability of the entire body of Shareholders unlimited. All Directors must be Proprietors in the Company.

The Capital is £2,000,000, divided into 100,000 Shares of £20 each, 94,211 of which are in the hands of Proprietors.

1856.	£820,374	...	Capital Paid up and Accumulated Funds	...	1857.	£1,088,018
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BUSINESS.

1856.	Life Insurance.	1857.	1856.	Fire Insurance.	1857.	1856.	Annuities.	1857.
£72,782	...	£110,928	£222,272	...	£289,251	£17,338	...	£26,990
	Premiums		Premiums				Receipts	

The Income of the Company is £450,000 a year.

April, 1858.

SWINTON BOULT, Secretary to the Company.